

Britain expels Israeli 'spy' and PLO man

Mossad's attitude 'cost chance to hold suspect'

By Andrew McEwan

The Government yesterday showed its anger with the Israeli intelligence agency, Mossad, and the Palestine Liberation Organization, by expelling an Israeli diplomat and a member of the PLO office in London.

It was said to be the first time an Israeli diplomat has been expelled from Britain.

The Israeli Embassy in London said it "regretted" the Government's decision, which was issued by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, but announced by the Foreign Office. Both men were given until the end of the month to leave.

The expulsions followed

claims that the failure of Mossad agents in Britain to share vital information with the British authorities cost the police a chance to arrest a PLO member suspected of involvement in the murder of an Arab cartoonist in London last year.

The Foreign Office said that the Israeli diplomat, Mr Arie Regev, was told to leave "because of activities incompatible with his status", the term which always means spying.

The Times understands that the British authorities suspect

Israel accused

him of being one of two Mossad handlers who controlled Israel's Sowat, a Palestinian informant in Britain. Sowat was convicted on Wednesday on charges stemming from the discovery of a large PLO arms cache in his flat in London.

The arms were left there by the man he spied on, Abdul-Rahim Mustapha. Mustapha is suspected by Scotland Yard of involvement in the shooting of Mr Ali al-Adhami, a Middle East cartoonist who worked in London.

The other Israeli believed to have been a Mossad handler was the diplomat who was told not to return after leaving Britain last summer, as *The Times* reported yesterday. He was named by the Foreign Office as Mr Jacob Barad, who worked at the Israeli Embassy from 1984 until last August. An exclusion order was made last October.

Neither the expulsion nor the exclusion order will mean a reduction in Israel's diplomatic presence in Britain. Whitehall sources said the embassy would be allowed to replace them. This was seen as a signal that the Government only wishes to show anger.

The PLO official expelled, Mr Zaki al-Hawa, acted as the organization's spokesman in London. The Foreign Office said it had established that he was a member of Force 17, which looks after the personal security of the PLO chairman, Mr Yasser Arafat, and its overseas offices.

A spokesman said: "There is no evidence implicating him (Mr Hwa) in any crime; nevertheless the PLO leader-

ship must understand that the use of violence in Britain by any groups within the PLO is unacceptable."

The Foreign Office has established that the PLO office in London knew nothing about the plot to kill Mr al-Adhami, which it thinks was carried out by Force 17. But for this, the London office would have been closed and all three officials expelled. This is despite the fact that two PLO members who in the past had been linked to the London office are now under suspicion.

One is Mustapha, who worked as a security guard at the London office from 1983 to 1985. The other was named yesterday as Mr Mounir al-Zaabi, an associate with Mustapha in running a garage business.

The Foreign Office said that after Mr al-Zaabi left Britain in December, 1986, an exclusion order was made to prevent him returning. It said all members of Force 17 had now been excluded.

The Government's decisions, which are understood to have been taken mainly by Mr Hurd and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, were communicated by the Foreign Office to the Israeli Ambassador and the chief representative of the PLO.

Mr Yehuda Avner, the Israeli Ambassador, was seen by Sir Patrick Wright, the Permanent Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office and head of the diplomatic service.

Later, the Israeli Embassy said: "We regret that Her Majesty's Government saw fit to take measures of the kind adopted. Israel did not act against British interests. The struggle against terrorism was its one and only motivation."

Mr Faisal Awaida, the PLO chief representative, was seen by Sir David Miers, the Assistant Under-Secretary. Mr Awaida described the meeting as "cordial". "The man (Mustapha) was implicated rather than involved. Why should we be affected by something we are not involved in?"

He said that Sir David had told him that the Government "did not like things like this happening in London", but

Continued on page 24, col 5

The high sign signals England's low point



Graham Gooch departs, bowled by Malcolm Marshall, right, who celebrates with Ritchie Richardson, during England's collapse to 165 all out against the West Indies on the second day of the second Test at Lord's yesterday (Photograph: Hugh Routledge). Report, page 49.

IRA 'holds Libyan arms store'

By Paul Vallely

Fears that the IRA still possesses significant amounts of Libyan explosives were at the centre of discussions between British and Irish security chiefs in Belfast yesterday.

The Anglo-Irish conference was told that forensic experts were convinced Semtex explosive was used in the bomb

Plotters guilty

which killed six British soldiers after a fun run in Lisburn this week.

Semtex is a commercially-made Czechoslovakian plastic explosive which is known to be used by the Libyans. It is believed to have been one of the more lethal components of big arms shipments from Tripoli, the last of which was intercepted on the trawler Eksund by security forces.

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, confirmed later that arms shipments from Libya had

Continued on page 24, col 1

Dukakis vows to fight Ulster discrimination

From Charles Bremner, Miami

As President of the United States, Mr Michael Dukakis would support efforts to promote "affirmative action" to favour Roman Catholics in Northern Ireland. But he plans to work closely with Mrs Thatcher to pursue the special Anglo-American relationship at a time when Britain is moving closer to Europe.

In an interview with *The Times* while flying in to launch his campaign in Florida, the Democratic candidate made clear that he would press Britain for action to stop discrimination in Northern Ireland.

This would, he said, include supporting "McBride principles" legislation, a policy based on South African investment boycotts. Massachusetts was the first of several US states to pass McBride laws over strong British objections.

"Based on our experience, it just isn't enough to say, 'Well, we are against it.' If there's been a historic pattern of discrimination then you really

Challenge to Thatcher

have to take steps to affirmatively act."

Mr Dukakis compared injustice for Catholics in Northern Ireland to racial discrimination in the past in United States.

"I have said that as an American you ought to understand what racial discrimination means because we ourselves have had very serious and deep problems of racial discrimination."

The governor said he means his criticism constructively. "I thought it was important that we help and insist and encourage and not simply scold."

Mr Dukakis says he looks forward to doing business with Mrs Thatcher and he does not believe any differences will hinder the special relationship. "I'm a strong person, too."

"The relationship between the United States and the United Kingdom is a very important one. It is historic and I think we all feel very

strongly about it."

The Governor also strongly rejected suggestions in Europe that some of his plans for dealing with the Kremlin sound naive, particularly his pledge to scrap the Strategic Defence Initiative.

However, his defence stance emerged as his weakest point in a national opinion poll yesterday as the governor flew across from Florida to Biloxi and New Orleans promising to wage war on drugs.

The survey, by NBC News and *The Wall Street Journal*, found that four out of 10 voters agreed with the statement that "Michael Dukakis is too inexperienced in foreign policy to be a good President".

Over half the electorate thinks Vice-President George Bush will be strong on defence, while only 31 percent believes Mr Dukakis would be.

But Mr Dukakis took heart from his commanding overall lead against Mr Bush. According to the poll he is favoured now by 49 percent to 36 percent.

Stonehenge hippies ram fence

Police fought with hippies around Stonehenge in Wiltshire yesterday as a group broke through perimeter fencing in an attempt to reach the monument.

The hippies, who are gathering for Tuesday's Summer Solstice festival, crashed vehicles through fencing which protects the monument on Salisbury Plain.

Thirty-two people were arrested as police grappled with the hippies who ran across the fields around Stonehenge.

Earlier police stopped a convoy of hippies and issued a warning under the Public Order Act.

Later the hippies, some screaming and with their fists flailing, were rugby-tackled and bundled to the ground by police.

As the hippies were dragged off to a waiting fleet of police cars and vans, their companions claimed that windows in their convoy of coaches and vans had been smashed.

All police leave for Wiltshire's officers has been cancelled this weekend.

WIN £78,000

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator

● The £4,000 daily prize was shared by two winners yesterday (see page 3). The Portfolio Accumulator fund now stands at £78,000. Prizes: pages 29, 33

NEXT WEEK

● Cobwebbed curators have moved out of Britain's museums to be replaced by marketing teams and designers.
● The new teams are creating a fresh image, examined in *The Times* all next week. The series will include a full-colour guide on Tuesday to the best of Britain's exhibitions. On Monday: the hidden treasures.

IN PART 2

Saatchi call

Saatchi & Saatchi is asking shareholders for £176.5 million to help to pay for the acquisition of a United States consultancy business. Page 25

Rover 'clash'

Mrs Thatcher and M Jacques Delors, the president of the European Commission are heading for a "fraught" meeting on the Rover-British Aerospace merger. Page 25

Top trusts

Australian unit trusts, which hit rock-bottom when the stock market crashed, are now leading the field says a report in *Family Money* Pages 30-34

Lyle fades

Sandy Lyle, who shared the overnight lead, had a round of 71 in the US Open golf tournament yesterday to fall back to second place among the early second round leaders. Page 40

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Output at highest for nine years

By David Smith

The Government finally rid itself of an economic embarrassment yesterday with the publication of figures showing manufacturing output firmly above 1979 levels.

Output figures for April showed a 1.8 per cent rise and climbed above the June 1979 level for the first time. But manufacturing output still needs to rise another 2 per cent to beat the 1974 record.

The rise in manufacturing output is officially believed to be slowing, despite the April jump, but inflationary pressures are increasing.

Inflation in the 12 months to May was 4.2 per cent, up from 3.9 per cent in April, and is expected to move higher over the summer. The figures increased City expectations of another rise in base rates to curb demand, although the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, said that credit growth was not a cause for worry.

Base rate pressure, page 25

Clowes cash in £5m switch

By Lawrence Lever

Almost £5 million of investors' money put into Barlow Clowes International (BCI) was suddenly switched to a Gibraltar company last year at the time of the stock market crash. *The Times* has discovered that two investment brokers who have recommended their clients to invest in Barlow Clowes were directors of the Gibraltar company, Temple Bar Investments, for almost two years until the month before the money was switched.

The £5 million includes £1.6 million which was switched into Temple Bar on October 19 last year, Black Monday, the day of the stock market crash.

All the money was immediately transferred from Temple Bar to settle accounts with three Stock Exchange member firms - Guy Fackie, Fiske & Co and Robert Wigram.

The investment brokers concerned - DC Wilson & Partners, of Stockport, Cheshire and Analysis Group, of Harrogate, - are both mem-

bers of Fimbra, the watchdog for intermediaries. Fimbra is carrying out inquiries into them.

Fimbra has targeted several of its members for potential investigation. These are generally those intermediaries who put a substantial amount of their clients' funds with Barlow Clowes.

A total of £138 million was invested in BCI by investors, mainly retired people. At the moment they face losing over £100 million of it.

The Times has discovered that around October and November last year almost £5 million coming from the fund

was paid to Temple Bar Investments, a Gibraltar company.

According to records in Gibraltar, Mr Denis Cruise Wilson, a director of DC Wilson & Partners Ltd, the Stockport-based financial intermediary, and Mr Ross Kevin Hyett, a director of Analysis Group plc were both appointed directors of Temple Bar Investments in October 1985.

Both men had resigned from the company on September 18, 1987, according to documents which were registered in Gibraltar on November 6 last year. The money went in to Temple Bar in October and November.

The Department of Trade began an investigation into Barlow Clowes on November 24 last year following dissatisfaction with the returns it has submitted to it.

Mr Hyett is believed to be in Germany at the moment and was not available for comment. Nor was Mr Wilson who was working in his Stockport office yesterday.

Armenia crisis, page 6

Denis Wilson: ex-director

Azerbaijan vote raises tension

From Christopher Walker

Moscow

The Soviet Union was plunged further into ethnic crisis yesterday when the parliament of Azerbaijan unanimously rejected a request that the disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh be returned to the republic of Armenia.

The vote, which contradicted that by the Armenian parliament only 48 hours earlier, was expected to further raise passions in Nagorno-Karabakh, where strikes have created an atmosphere of near anarchy.

The parliaments of the two republics are formally at loggerheads, each citing different articles of the Soviet constitution to back its case. It was believed that only Kremlin mediation could help solve the increasingly bitter split.

Official sources said emotions were running high in the Azerbaijani capital, Baku.

Officials were not present at the recent talks.

The OFT confirmed last night that discussions had taken place with IPPA leaders. Meanwhile Home Office officials insisted Lord Young's initiative was the result of a collective ministerial decision taken "some time ago," and did not amount to a piece of free-lancing by the DTI chief.

Television industry chiefs are increasingly concerned by Lord Young's "takeover" of broadcasting policy, but there is a growing belief, according to one senior Home Office source, that Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, is granting his Cabinet colleague "enough rope to hang himself."

OFT may take role of broadcast deals monitor

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

The Office of Fair Trading could soon take over from the BBC and Independent Broadcasting Authority in monitoring commercial deals between Britain's broadcasters and the flourishing breed of independent programme producers.

Lord Young of Graffham, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has asked the watchdog body to investigate after bitter complaints from the independents about the present system.

His move, the latest in the field of broadcasting, has increased speculation in Whitehall that the Cabinet peer is seeking to wrest overall control

of broadcasting policy from the Home Office.

One insider said last night: "The OFT is part of Lord Young's fiefdom and this all fits into the DTI's war with the Home Office over broadcasting."

Independent producers are preparing to make programmes that fill 25 per cent of BBC and ITV airtime within the next few years, with active encouragement from the Government. The business deals between the two sides, involving production fees, overseas sales rights and copyright, are monitored at present by the BBC and IBA.

The Independent Programme Producers' Association is not satisfied with the BBC's effectively being judge

and jury by overseeing commissioning deals in which it has a commercial interest. It is extremely unhappy with the way the IBA has monitored ITV purchases from independent producers, and says some independents have suffered financially.

At a private meeting with Lord Young earlier this year, association chiefs made plain their displeasure and the minister suggested the OFT should become involved. Exploratory talks between the two sides were held two weeks ago, and it is understood Sir Gordon Borrie's organization is keen to take on the monitoring role - including looking at deals reached over the past 12 months. Home Office

officials were not present at the recent talks.

The OFT confirmed last night that discussions had taken place with IPPA leaders. Meanwhile Home Office officials insisted Lord Young's initiative was the result of a collective ministerial decision taken "some time ago," and did not amount to a piece of free-lancing by the DTI chief.

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NEWS ROUNDUP

Tougher tests for driving teachers

A five-point plan to improve training standards for driving instructors was announced yesterday by Mr Peter Bottomley, Under-Secretary of State for Transport. In a Commons written reply, he said: "Good instruction is important for good driving skills and behaviour".

He said that the measures were aimed at improving driving standards and reducing accidents, by widening the knowledge required of instructors. The tougher vetting process - to be brought in over the next nine months - will include checking on registered instructors more effectively, expanding the syllabus for the written examination, limiting attempts at each of the two practical qualifying tests, and marking the written examination in sections to ensure an adequate level of knowledge over the whole syllabus. Mr Bottomley also wants co-operation with the National Instructors Association to develop an industry-approved register of training establishments for instructors.

It has been illegal since 1970 for anyone to give driving instruction for money unless approved by the Department of Transport or the holder of a trainee instructor's licence.

Threat of rail chaos

Rail commuters were last night facing widespread disruption with an overtime ban expected to start at midnight. The National Union of Railwaymen and British Rail are having failed to agree new terms of pay and conditions for 5,100 signalling and telecommunications workers. Staff, who voted for the action, yesterday received a letter from British Rail urging them to think again but the union said industrial action seemed inevitable. Staff are angry about the imposition of the new package after the breakdown of negotiations.

Docks inquiry call

Unions at Devonport Dockyard yesterday called for an independent inquiry into the "Government's deception" over redundancy announcements which will cut the workforce to about 6,000 by 1990. The unions also invited the new dockyard management, local MPs, and Plymouth city and the county council to join them in a joint approach to Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, to demand work for the yard.

Golding retires

Mr John Golding, general secretary of the National Communications Union, yesterday took early retirement while maintaining a steadfast silence over allegations that he had a sexual liaison with a prostitute. The package, thought to amount to about £50,000 plus protection of pension rights, takes effect from August 1 but he is not expected to return to his office. Candidates for his job may include Mr Phil Holt, who came second to Mr Golding in the last election, and Mr David Norman, who came third.

Heroin sweets charge

Three men appeared before Bristol magistrates yesterday in connection with heroin disguised as sweets. Imtiaz Ansari, aged 33, a senior education officer in Pakistan, Mumtaz Ahmed, aged 56, of Cobden Street, Walsall, West Midlands, and Mohammed Younis, aged 33, of Henley Road, Ilford, Essex, were remanded in custody charged with being knowingly concerned with the illegal import at Heathrow airport of 1.7 kilos of black heroin worth £200,000.

Judgement reserved

Judgement was reserved yesterday on a challenge to the legality of the Anglo-Irish agreement. Mr Christopher McGimpsey and his brother Michael, moderate Unionists from Belfast, argued in the High Court in Dublin that the Irish Government breached its own constitution by signing the agreement.

Union films P&O staffing in secret

By Boris Johnson

Striking seamen at Dover say they have gained video tape evidence allegedly showing illegal crewing and safety levels aboard P&O ferries.

The National Union of Seamen is to present the tape to the Department of Trade and Industry.

After 22 weeks of the dispute, with 950 seamen still out, a coach party of striking NUS members boarded one of the strike-breaking ferries, posing as the Seahouse Rugby Club.

The 28 men from Hull, Liverpool and Aberdeen boarded the Pride of Bruges for the 12.15pm sailing from Calais to Dover yesterday.

They first sailed from Sheerness to Flushing in The Netherlands and then drove to Calais.

Mr Ken Turner, union branch secretary from Hull, was led through a cheering crowd of pickets to allege to a mass meeting that there was "serious undermining aboard" with only two men forward and two men aft, whereas there should have been four.

He added that they had found fire hydrants with checks 18 months overdue, and safety exits barred and chained because there was not enough crew members to show passengers where to go.

Secrecy surrounding selection of JPs is to end

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

The secret selection process for magistrates in England and Wales is to be opened up to "enhance public confidence in the magistracy" and attract a wider pool of people to the bench, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, said yesterday.

He has decided that the 878 people on the 95 local advisory committees who interview candidates and recommend them for appointment should now be made public. Their identities have been kept secret.

The move is a significant step towards demystifying the procedure by which lay magistrates, who handle 95 per cent of criminal cases, are chosen.

The selection system has been attacked over the years for being secret and, Lord Mackay said, the

The Lord Advocate, Lord Cameron of Lochbroom, has appointed Lord Davidson to be chairman of the Scottish Law Commission, for five years from October 1. He succeeds

implication has been "that there is something to hide".

The decision has been made on the basis of a survey of the local advisory committees, conducted by one of his predecessors, Lord Halsam of St Marylebone, in which 65 of the committees were in favour of disclosure.

Announcing his decision last night to the Staffordshire and Shropshire justices, Lord Mackay said: "I am confident that in the changed conditions of today this move towards greater openness is entirely right".

The public would now be able to see that advisory committees were

Lord Maxwell. The commission has a statutory duty to reform the law of Scotland by considering proposals and making recommendations for reform to the Government.

"fairly composed of members drawn from different sections of the community" and this would remove the "aura of unnecessary secrecy" which surrounds the selection process.

The move was also likely to make it easier to find suitable candidates for the magistracy, Lord Mackay said. There was particular difficulty at present in recruiting young people, shop floor workers and wage earners.

He added that, in the context of correspondence in *The Times* about the 60 years age limit for appointment to the bench, he had decided to reconsider whether older people

should not be eligible.

The advisory committees, which roughly cover local government areas, are appointed by the Lord Chancellor or Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster in that area.

Most are magistrates, although there is usually one non-JP on each committee: members sit for six years with a change in half the committee every three years.

The appointments are personal, Lord Mackay said. "No member is, or should regard himself or herself as a representative of any organization, group, or political party".

Yesterday Mr John Hosking, chairman of the Magistrates' Association, said that in general he welcomed the proposal.

"I am all in favour of the magistracy's courts being seen to be the people's courts and I think we do ourselves no great service by being secret about who we are, what we are

and what we are trying to do".

It was important that magistrates were seen as being drawn from ordinary people and not separate from them, he said.

But Mr Hosking said there could be serious disadvantages to disclosure of names; the committee system might become much more susceptible to party political wrangles.

The committees might also become liable to lobbying, although the Lord Chancellor says it is vitally important that committee members should not be constrained by outside pressures from making independent decisions. To counter this he has proposed that any canvassing might lead to rejection.

The move to openness will come in gradually. Lord Mackay has given committees until 1992 to disclose names, to give members who do not wish to be named time to resign.

Labour gives up majority with action on 20 rebels

By Craig Seton and Richard Ford

The controlling Labour group on Birmingham city council was in turmoil yesterday after it withdrew the whip from 20 of its own councillors, in effect, giving up its overall majority.

The crisis came after an eight-hour meeting which decided that the rebel Labour councillors should be thrown off the group for up to six months for defying a three-line whip during a vital vote.

The whip was withdrawn after the rebels refused to apologise for not supporting a motion to close a council-run seaside holiday home for handicapped children.

Their abstention gave the Conservative and Social Liberal Democrat opposition a one-vote victory over a motion to keep the home open.

A motion urging a full inquiry into the Birmingham Labour group is now expected to be presented to the Labour Party annual conference by members of the national executive committee.

Mr Dick Knowles, Labour leader of the council, which had a Labour majority of 17, said later: "It is very sad, but we had to exercise discipline. You cannot run a group without knowing which way people will vote or abstain."

The 20 rebels included members of the Summerfield group, a left-wing caucus which was accused of trying to topple Mr Knowles and more moderate members of the Labour leadership from power.

In effect, the rebel group now holds the balance of power, although its members are not expected to vote with the opposition.

Mr Carole McKeown, one of the rebels, said: "I am not sure of our position. We have had the whip withdrawn for up to six months which means, as I understand it, that we are not members of the Labour group at the moment."

Mr Hattersley told the conference Labour's survival as a political force was threatened unless it produced a "convincing, credible and coherent" definition of socialism.

Mrs McKeown said the Labour group was dominated by "a few fairly hard right

'Sanctuary' immigrant must go



Mr Viraj Mendis reading the Court of Appeal decision in the church yesterday (Photograph: Howard Barlow).

By Ian Smith

Mr Viraj Mendis, the illegal immigrant who has taken sanctuary in a church, remained there last night after the Court of Appeal refused to lift a deportation order.

Lord Justice Neill, presiding, ruled that the Home Secretary and immigration authorities had acted lawfully in ordering the deportation of Mr Mendis, aged 32, who arrived in Manchester as a student in 1973. But in the clergy's

robing room of the Church of the Ascension in Hulme, Manchester, Mr Mendis said he would not end his struggle to stay in this country.

Lawyers are now preparing to lodge a petition to the judicial committee of the House of Lords seeking leave to appeal against the judgment yesterday.

"I will not give in," said Mendis, who comes from Sri Lanka. "If I return home I will be killed and the Home Office knows this. The second I leave the

sanctuary of the church police will arrest me and I will be taken straight to an airport to fly back to certain death."

Mendis first sought sanctuary at the church in December 1986, since then he has lived in a sparse side room with only a bed, table and telephone.

The Home Office denied it had offered a deal guaranteeing no action on the deportation order until court action has ceased, if Mr Mendis leaves the church. Law Report, page 34

PSA 'purged of corruption'

By Michael Horsnell

Sir Gordon Manzie, chief executive of the Property Services Agency, said yesterday that his campaign to rid the organization of corruption had largely succeeded though he promised unremitting vigilance.

He was speaking after the jailing of six builders and a Civil Servant for their part in a £4 million swindle over government building contracts.

The trial marked the halfway stage in the series of four Central Criminal Court trials against officials of the PSA.

Sir Gordon whose clean-up is said to have kept the agency afloat, told *The Times* he would be studying the transcript of all the trials to see if further lessons could be learnt.

He said: "My aim has been to eradicate corruption and we have made great inroads. But we have to remain vigilant. I have taken a hard line on things like the accepting of entertaining by staff and introduced tighter management

and contract audits. I think people in the public service need to have even higher standards than those outside it."

The court cases follow an inquiry by Scotland Yard fraud squad officers into allegations published in the *News of the World* in 1984 after it was tipped off by a disgruntled employee of one of the contractors.

Police found that Civil Servants had been bribed with holidays in the United States, cash handouts and home improvements in return for ensuring that crooked builders won inflated contracts with the agency, which is responsible for building and maintaining government property.

So far five Civil Servants and nine contractors have been convicted of or admitted corruption charges. Two more Civil Servants, one builder and a local government official await trial. The trials are inter-related and involve al-

leged corruption at three of the agency's 150 district offices - Victoria, Wallington and Hampton Court.

Sir Gordon began his clean-up in 1984 when he succeeded Mr Montague Alfred who left after telling the Commons public accounts committee that little could be done to stamp out corruption.

Stringent measures have been introduced to prevent further corruption at the agency which has an annual turnover of £2.8 billion.

A special unit has been set up to examine patterns of tendering for contracts in all districts to ensure groups of building contractors have little or no opportunity of collusion with Civil Servants.

Specific and random investigations have found little corruption outside London.

The agency has "black-listed" 10 contractors since it began its purge and made its 150 offices report directly to its 10 regions.

Animal rights men jailed over £9m fires

Two animal rights activists who spearheaded a firebomb campaign against Debenhams department stores were jailed at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Geoffrey Shepherd, aged 30, and Andrew Clarke, aged 25, both members of the Animal Liberation Front, caused £9 million losses when setting three shops ablaze.

Judge Denison, QC, said: "I am not going to spend time pointing out to you the error of your ways for the very good reason that you would not pay any attention."

Shepherd, of Hillside Road, Tottenham, north London, was jailed for four years and four months. Clarke, of Alfoxton Road, Tottenham, was jailed for three and a half years. Both were found guilty of three arson attacks on July 12 last year. Shepherd was also found guilty of possessing firebomb making equipment, a charge Clarke admitted.

Firemen were feet from Tube victims

Two people died in the King's Cross fire just yards from fresh air and a few feet from firemen searching for survivors in searing heat and blinding smoke, the disaster inquiry was told yesterday.

Their bodies were found more than two hours after the fire, in a room, believed to have been a locked cupboard, well away from the inferno which engulfed the ticket hall.

London's Chief Fire Officer, Mr. Gerald Clarkson, said firemen with breathing apparatus searched the gentlemen's lavatory in an exit subway, minutes after the fire engulfed the ticket hall.

They left without looking behind what appeared to be a locked door in order to continue their search nearer the

Passengers at Camden Town Underground station said to have objected to evacuating the station when smoke and a smell of burning emerged from under an escalator yesterday, in spite of the King's Cross disaster in which 31 people died. London Underground said the evacuation was completed in under 5 minutes, and the station was closed for 40 minutes while the fire brigade investigated.

London Underground said the trouble was caused by the overheating of drive gear on the

escalator, which was taken out of service. Passengers on the platforms were evacuated by train, but one London Underground worker said that some objected to not being allowed to go up the escalator. "At that stage we had no idea whether or not we had a disaster on our hands. After the King's Cross fire I thought people would understand the importance of getting out as quickly as possible."

£7.5 million is to be spent on easing congestion at Liverpool Street Underground

men who were anxious to get to the centre of the fire where people were thought to be.

Mr Clarkson agreed that many of the stipulations attached to fire certificates for big football grounds could usefully be imposed on Underground stations.

Those included a limit on the number of people allowed to be there at any one time

discovered the bodies behind that door."

Mr Clarkson said he believed the fact that the inner room was missed was "to some degree understandable" in the conditions faced by the firemen making the initial search.

He added that detailed searches of all the passageways would only have delayed fire-

Publishers angered by 'abuse of copyright'

British Library accused of photocopying piracy

By Andrew Billen

Publishers from around the world yesterday condemned the British Library for photocopying works on an industrial scale without paying copyright fees.

At a congress in London attended by representatives of more than 50 countries, the International Publishers Association (IPA) voted to demand action from the British Government to outlaw the abuse.

The motion, which originated from the United States delegation, centred on the British Library's Document Supply Centre which it accused of selling massive quantities of photocopies to commercial organizations without permission. Mr Alexander Hoffman, chairman of the associ-

ation's copyright committee, called the supply centre's operation "statutory, legitimized, piracy".

The supply centre, based in Boston Spa, West Yorkshire, uses more than 70 photocopying machines to print 1.5 million copies annually of articles from scientific journals. About half are exported.

Scientists commonly find the articles through electronic bibliographies. They then write to the document centre asking for a copy. The photocopies, costing £1.40 for two, are sent within 10 days.

The operation is legal because of exemptions applying to non-profit making libraries under the Copyright Act. Despite earlier promises from the Government, the law is not due to be changed under the Copyright Bill

going through the Commons. The IPA is convinced, however, that the operation is contrary to the international Berne convention on copyright, since it prevents the normal exploitation of works. The IPA wants to introduce a licensing system.

Mr Clive Bradley, chief executive of The Publishers Association in Britain, said: "It is becoming the main method of accessing articles. It is a very efficient, very useful service, but it is of grave concern to publishers."

Mr Bradley said science publishers were in a high-investment business with a small potential market. They were in danger of going out of business because people were reading their publications without paying. He said he had received private indications from Lord Young of Graffham,

Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, that he might be willing to look again at the Bill.

The British Library yesterday defended its operation, accusing the Americans of trying to achieve in Britain what had been rejected in the United States.

Mr David Russon, director of the supply centre, said: "We believe the balance between the rights of users and providers is about right. Authors want their works to be read."

"The law allows a single copy to be made for private research, so we are talking about very small numbers. We spend £2 million each year on buying 50,000 journals a year."

"Each contains 100 articles a year. It is likely that many are never read at all."

Works by Holbein on display

Basle (AP) - After more than 400 years of separation, Sir Henry and Lady Mary Guildford have been temporarily reunited here.

Drawings of them are on display in the first joint showing of two of the world's most important collections of the graphic oeuvre of Hans Holbein the Younger, a Basle citizen who became the court painter of Henry VIII.

The exhibit comprises 50 drawings from the collection of the Queen on loan to the Basle Art Museum and the 80 works normally on display at the museum.

Publication demanded for nuclear report

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

The Nuclear Installations Inspectorate was yesterday urged to make public its report on the safety of two reactors built during the 1950s that are still operating at the UK Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell, Oxfordshire.

The Inspectorate, part of the Health and Safety Commission, began an inquiry into the safety of the reactors after claims by Mr Dennis Dawson, Harwell's former head of nuclear reactor design, that both were corroding dangerously.

Friends of the Earth, the environmental pressure

group, said yesterday that a decision not to publish the results cast doubt on the independence of the inspectorate.

Mr Dawson, who made the allegations, also called on the inspectorate to make the results of the inquiry public.

Mr Dawson claims that plans to modify the reactors to enable them to test components of power-producing reactors could lead to an explosion and possible meltdown of the radioactive core.

The NII said the conclusions would be published if they constituted a "matter of grave public concern".

Two plots came

Two fire cracked on alcon

Hotline case a

By Harvey...
The controllers...
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The number...

Two found guilty of plotting terror bomb campaign in Britain

Two Belfast men were convicted at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of plotting a terror campaign in Britain last year.

Patrick McLaughlin, aged 40, and Liam McCotter, aged 25, were arrested after being followed in a high security undercover operation by Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist squad and Greater Manchester Police.

They will be sentenced by Mr Justice Owen on Monday. The men led police to two caches of explosives, bomb components and arms concealed in plastic dustbins in two forests — Macclesfield and Delamere — south of Manchester in February, 1987, the court was told.

Mr Roy Amlot, for the prosecution, said there was enough explosive to make at least 25 bombs.

McLaughlin, of Glenalea, Ballymurphy Estate, and McCotter, of Carrigan Avenue, both in Belfast, were found guilty of conspiring on and before February 19, 1987 to cause explosions in the United Kingdom.

The jury reached their unanimous verdicts after deliberating for almost four hours at the end of a nine-day trial.

The jury was told that the two men were arrested after a surveillance operation which led to the finding of the dustbins and of a route to bring in the arms through North Wales.

The campaign's specific targets were not disclosed, although maps of Manchester and London were found at the flat in Wilbraham Road, Manchester, that was used by the two men.

Mr Amlot said the contents of the caches was sufficient for a "sustained and prolonged" campaign.

Inside the caches was almost 200lbs of Semtex high explosive, detonators, timing devices of a characteristic Provisional IRA design, three AK47 automatic rifles, two handguns and ammunition.

The full fruits of the operation were never disclosed in court.

Det Chief Supt Derek Willison, of the Anti-Terrorist Squad, effectively drew a veil over what police uncovered before February 15, 1987 by refusing to answer questions from defence counsel about events before that date.

The jury was told only of developments in the surveillance operation from February 15 until February 19, when McLaughlin and McCotter were arrested by armed officers.

The prosecution decided only during the trial to include evidence about a moonlight rendezvous with a trawler which the men were seen to make at Cemaes, near Holyhead, North Wales.

Mr Amlot said: "He has to consider not just these two men and this particular cache, but he has to look to the future as well because regrettably one thing is virtually certain and that is we have not seen the last IRA bombing campaign in this country."

"You can be sure, if you needed telling, that intelligence for the Anti-Terrorist Squad and for police in this country generally is critical. It might prevent another bombing campaign."

Unknown to McLaughlin and McCotter they were kept under close surveillance by police. McLaughlin was given the codename "Echo" and McCotter the codename "Foxtrot".

The accommodation the two men used had been rented earlier by a man who gave the landlady the name "Alan Robinson". He handed over a £500 deposit in cash. He has disappeared.

McLaughlin and McCotter were jailed for four days as they bought dustbins, a spade, sealing tape, tin liners, boots and other materials, visited the forests, and made the journey to North Wales.

They did not know the man behind them in the queue at a

DIY supermarket was a plain clothes police officer. Nor were they aware as they dug in Macclesfield Forest that another officer was watching, or that the man and woman listening to them in Delamere Forest were from the Scotland Yard surveillance team.

The same two officers were watching shortly after midnight on the quay at Cemaes on February 18 when the men picked up still-wet packages, dropped off by a trawler without lights.

McLaughlin and McCotter were followed by surveillance police cars through the night to the forests. The next day police opened the caches, and the men were arrested.

They said they had been "duped" and knew nothing of the bombing conspiracy. They came to Manchester because McLaughlin wanted to buy a black taxi cab.

McLaughlin said he had met the man he knew as "Alan Robinson" in Belfast and was offered accommodation in Wilbraham Road. Through him the pair met two Irishmen and it was for them they buried the dustbins for £500.

They did not know they were to be used as terrorist caches, they said.

Both took the unusual step of refusing to submit to cross-examination in the witness box — a step which Mr Justice Owen said amounted to a contempt of court.

Their refusal did not mean they were guilty, but did mean their evidence could not be tested, he said. After the verdicts, the jury was told by Mr Willison that both men had refused to give any particulars. He told them McLaughlin had two previous convictions. In 1975 in Belfast he was jailed for three years for possessing a firearm and ammunition in suspicious circumstances, and having them without a certificate.

At Dublin Special Criminal Court in June 1981, he was given three years for possession of a firearm and ammunition. McCotter had no previous convictions.

Poll to highlight social division



Ann Holmes, Labour candidate for Kensington, with a Portobello Road trader yesterday (Photograph: Graham Wood).

By Peter Mulligan

Sharp social differences in a few square miles of west London will set the agenda for the Kensington by-election, where contentious government policies face their toughest electoral test to date.

The contest is expected to get under way early next week when the writ is likely to be moved. It could be fought by up to 35 candidates, beating easily the record of 17 set in Chesterfield in 1984.

Contrary to its reputation for ease and comfort, Kensington is seen as a mirror of Britain as a whole, with influence and wealth in the south and a bleak rash of deprivation in the north.

Constituents can walk within an hour from Kensington Palace, home of the Prince of Wales, past the white facades of period houses into a progressively grimmer environment of high-rise council blocks and run-down terraces.

Through this setting, Sir Brandon Rhys Williams, whose death after 20 years as the local Conservative MP has prompted the poll, moved with old-school charm and a 4,500 majority.

Conservatives hopes rest with Mr Dudley Fishburn, aged 42, a journalist, who was selected on Thursday night in preference to the local council leader, who is a persistent critic of the community charge.

His opponents will include Mrs Ann Holmes, aged 41, for Labour, a housing consultant and Kinnock-Hattersley supporter, Mr William Goodhart, QC, aged 55, for the SLD in its first parliamentary by-election, and Mr John Martin, aged 51, a businessman, for the SDP.

National rather than local issues will be at the forefront of the campaign, particularly the poll tax, changes in housing benefit, the abolition of Ilea and the subsequent threat to adult education

classes, and the National Health Service. There is also Conservative unease about the uniform business rate, which will increase the local business levy by 93 per cent. The Kensington Chamber of Commerce met Mr Michael Howard, Minister for Local Government, last month in a bid to soften its impact.

Labour, which sees the seat as winnable, will seek particularly to exploit the effect of the rate on small businesses, a feature of the famous Portobello Road market and its surrounds.

Fringe candidates include Miss Cynthia Payne, for the Rainbow Alliance, who aims to legalize brothels. If the writ is moved by Tuesday, the poll is likely to be on July 14.

General election, 1987: Sir Brandon Rhys Williams (C) 14,818; Ben Bousquet (Lab) 10,371; William Goodhart (SDP) 5,378; R F Shorter (Green) 528; L Carrick (Humanist) 65; M Hughes (Ind) 30. Majority 4,447. Electorate 48,212.

Tour firms crackdown on alcohol

By Nicholas Beeson and Harry Debelius

British tourists, particularly those on package trips to Spain, could face stringent controls in a crackdown on holiday drunkenness.

The Foreign Office, travel agents and airlines are combining to reduce rowdy behaviour by some of the 12 million Britons likely to take package holidays this year.

Among proposals are: sealing duty free bags at airports to prevent alcohol being drunk before passengers depart; reducing "happy hours" and increasing the number of police in resorts; repatriating tourists who misbehave and curtailing their holidays; and blacklisting troublemakers.

Mr Timothy Eggar, Under Secretary of State at the Foreign Office, returned from Spain this week after visiting Alicante, Benidorm, Valencia and Madrid.

Benidorm police told him that half of the nightly average of 12 people in the cells of the municipal jail are British.

Mr Eggar said drink-related incidents were the most common. "In some places authorities have reached agreement with bar owners to limit or eliminate the happy hour."

The Foreign Office is to launch a television advertising campaign to advise tourists how to behave. It will be run in conjunction with the Association of British Travel Agents, the Tour Owners Study Group and BAA.

Sir Frank Layfield, QC, for Mr Palumbo, concluded the proceedings with a final submission in which he emphasized that many of the points raised by opponents of the plan were largely a re-run of the first inquiry, into a different scheme, four years ago.

Mr Palumbo said: "I think we stand a reasonably good chance of success. Public inquiries are time-consuming and expensive and one doesn't embark on them lightly unless one is continually optimistic of success."

The plan, for the Mappin & Webb site, next to Mansion House, is opposed by the City Corporation, English Heritage — which says it has 800 letters in support of its refurbishment scheme — 10 conservation groups and some retail traders. A decision is likely next spring, but it could be earlier.

Passions have run high over the design, which has been described as "fascist" and "overbearing". Mr Palumbo

prefers to use the term "contextual". He added: "I find Mr Stirling's design very beautiful."

Mr Palumbo's plans for the site go back 26 years, making them the subject of what is thought to be the longest-ever planning battle.

Yesterday he denied personally lobbying the Prime Minister after the last inquiry, saying it would have been "much too dangerous".

If he gets permission to go ahead, building work would start in January 1990 and be completed three years later. The cost would be about £60 million and the value of the building would be about £150 million, at present prices.

Mr Palumbo said he was taken by the suggestion in *The Times* of giving the demolished buildings to conservationists — "if anyone wants them" — to rebuild elsewhere.

Israel 'failed to warn British police'

Questions remain over suspect who slipped net

By Michael Evans

Defence Correspondent

The Israeli secret intelligence service, Mossad, knew him as Abed El-Rahman Saleh Moustafa, a professional dedicated to the cause of the Palestine Liberation Organization. His career had been monitored by Mossad watchers ever since he joined the main Fatah organization of the PLO in 1970.

Yesterday as the Foreign Office took action against the Israeli embassy, expelling a key diplomat after accusations that Israel had failed to warn the police of the presence of a suspected PLO terrorist in Britain, serious questions began to emerge over who was to blame for ever allowing Moustafa — his name can also be spelled Abdul-Rahim Moustafa — to come to this country in the first place.

He spent several years in Britain working as a "legitimate" employee of the PLO office in London even though there had been an international warrant out for his arrest since 1970 on suspicion of being involved in a terrorist attack on an Israeli El Al airline coach in Munich.

When Moustafa first came to Britain in 1983 he was responsible for security of the PLO office, which was then under the same roof as the Arab League in west London. It is understood he had his own revolver, although there was no question of his having a permit for it, since no foreign official is allowed to carry a gun for protection.

What is still not clear is why the British security authorities seemed to know nothing about Moustafa when he first came to Britain.

Anyone employed by the PLO in London should routinely have been checked out. Yet someone in the police

or security service must have advised the Home Secretary in April last year that Moustafa should be banned from re-entering the country when he tried to return after a visit abroad.

The main problem for the British police is that they were apparently kept in the dark by the Israeli intelligence service who knew all about him. They had even ordered one of their young, experienced Mossad agents, Bashar Samara, to infiltrate a secret PLO cell in London which had connections with Moustafa.

The British authorities were never informed of this highly dangerous undercover operation because it was vital for the safety of the agent that no one outside Mossad should know about it.

In 1978 he was sent to the Pakistani Military Academy for further training and in 1980 he was appointed head of "Command 18" in Arafat's newly formed Force 17 unit

which was principally a heavily-armed bodyguard organization for the PLO leader but was also used for special assassination operations. In 1982 Moustafa was evacuated from Beirut to Tunis after the Israeli invasion and from there he arrived in Britain in the early part of 1983 to take charge of operations in London.

In April 1985 he left Britain and was transferred to Beirut to command Force 17 units which were now well established once again in Lebanon. He was captured by the Shia organization, Amal, which moved him to Syria where he was imprisoned for four months. In September 1985 he was released and flew to Cyprus. From there he returned to Britain.

Moustafa is now living in Algeria, according to sources, and is still connected with Force 17.

According to the court case which ended on Thursday, the Palestinian double agent, Ismael Sowani, was also engaged in keeping tabs on Moustafa. But if he was such a senior figure in the PLO, why did not Israel tip off the British authorities when he returned to this country illegally in July 1987, after he had been officially excluded from Britain by the Home Office in April because of belated concern about his possible terrorist activities.

It is understood that the Israeli intelligence authorities have now denied they were aware of Moustafa's secret return.

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Birt's back seat on BBC news

By Richard Evans

Media Editor

Mr John Birt, deputy director general of the BBC, is relinquishing day-to-day control of news and current affairs to concentrate more on corporation policy issues.

Although Mr Birt will remain the BBC's journalistic chief, Mr Ron Neil, his deputy, will take responsibility for the management of network news and current affairs, and will report to Mr Birt.

Mr Ian Hargreaves becomes controller of news and current affairs and Mr Eric Bowman, general manager of the Caversham, Berkshire, monitoring service, assistant director.

Official BBC sources said last night that Mr Birt had successfully overseen the development and unification of the corporation's news and current affairs, and now wanted more time to act as deputy director general. He runs the BBC in the absence of Mr Michael Checkland, the director general.

Mr Birt said: "The blueprint for the BBC's network journalism is now agreed."

"It involves a large-scale development and expansion plan: to create a corps of specialist correspondents at home; to open up bureaux abroad; to introduce new programme outlets on television and radio, and to design and build a news and current affairs centre on the White City site."

Expert witnesses have never been in greater demand, they claimed, nor so crucially important to cases where awards and costs may run to daunting levels.

Mr Nicholas Cohen, chairman and one of four founding fellows of the academy, told a meeting in the Inner Temple that the objective was mutual self interest for the public, the community and the legal, professional and trade associations and for the experts themselves.

"One of the problems today is knowing what you are going to get from an expert and where you will find him," he said. "What the academy will provide is access to the most suitably equipped expert for a particular task."

The body will train people to convey their knowledge in an effective way when they are called to give evidence. It aims to provide reliable and cost effective advice, not only in litigation, but in consultancy roles, investigations and matters under arbitration.

The academy has 132 members and promises to be tough on all who apply.

One expert noted that too many so-called experts were professional people who were long retired and had no up-to-date knowledge.

Such rusty expertise can expect short shrift from the new monitoring body although another expert admitted it will be reasonable for any specialist who discovered he had plunged out of his depth to call on the academy for help.

Researchers have discovered a new reason why so many betting shop punters lose. There is an odds on chance that, if they pick their horse in the afternoon, they may suffer "decision overload".

Two senior sociology lecturers at Birmingham Polytechnic stumbled across this punters' fever during a computer analysis of 9,000 slips collected from three city betting shops.

The researchers, Mr Mike Filby, and Mr Lee Harvey, were examining the changing habits of the average, off-course punter who, they found, is likely to be a conservative, cautious chap who bets for fun not money and is more likely to lose than win.

Mr Harvey said yesterday: "In the afternoon a lot of events are going on, a lot of information is coming into the betting shop, prices are changing and punters tend to get 'decision overload'."

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Afternoon punters find the going tough

By Craig Seton

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Other research suggested that the most successful punters were those who bet on non-handicap races very late when

starting prices were already fixed. "The best rate of return we found, on a small sample, was on bets placed on evening racing when the shops are closed before racing starts," he said.

"We do not know why, but 50 per cent of all those betting slips showed some success, which is very high. The safest bet, and most punters will probably know this, is a single horse bet, biggest stakes on favourites and probably placed outside the time of racing."

"The majority of betting slips were placed in the afternoon, but people who bet in the morning tended to have a higher rate of return. Single win bets were the most successful," he said.

The survey, carried out in the lecturers' spare time, began in 1984 when the two men spent a week in three betting shops, one city centre, one inner city and one in the suburbs.

The exercise was repeated two years later and groups of punters were questioned about their habits.

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Survey of betting shop clients

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"It is a recreational past-time and they are prepared to spend a certain amount of money on betting like any other form

of entertainment", Mr Harvey said. "Our study group tended to be not so reckless and were very careful in the main. In 40 per cent of all bets, the stake was less than £1."

The results are still being assessed, but so far they show that 75.9 per cent of slips were losers. Eight out of 10 punters tended to bet on horses rather than dog racing and were more likely to be middle-aged men.

The returns from the betting shops also showed that nine out of 10 bets were under £5 and a typical bet was between £1 and £2. The computer analysis showed that bets below 50p had a 12 per cent success rate. Those over £20 had a 36 per cent positive return.

The lecturers concluded that single win bets were the safest and that 30 per cent of punters chose them, although one defined the odds by placing the names of 81 horses on six betting slips in an accumulator bid for sudden wealth.

Mr Harvey, who rarely bets, said: "Collectively, the bookmaker beats the punter every time, but punters in betting shops are not mugs. They are students of racing who bet carefully with a view to enjoyable entertainment."

Specialists combine to start experts' academy

By Ronald Faux

The British Academy of Experts was launched yesterday in London. With no tremor of self-consciousness, a group of eminent specialists in a host of legal, medical, commercial and mechanical disciplines set out to provide guidance to an increasingly complex and litigious world.

Expert witnesses have never been in greater demand, they claimed, nor so crucially important to cases where awards and costs may run to daunting levels.

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Ridley gives £24m to help councils in homelessness fight

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

The Government is to give local authorities an extra £24.1 million to tackle homelessness and other housing problems, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced yesterday.

The money will be used to bring empty council homes back into use and improve poor quality private housing.

Addressing the Institute of Housing conference in Harrogate, North Yorkshire, Mr Ridley said authorities that retained a housing stock must manage it efficiently, and available housing must be used to full advantage. "Every effort must be made to get the large numbers of empty council properties back into use."

He said that £21.1 million of the £24 million would be for authorities with the greatest homelessness pressures, making a total of more than £74 million provided by the Government to help the homeless since last December.

Mr Ridley said he hoped the money would relieve the social and financial burden of

bed and breakfast accommodation for the homeless. The Government is providing a further £3 million this year to selected councils to encourage a concerted effort on area renewal. This money is mainly for areas of poor quality private sector accommodation, and where house prices were depressed and where post-improvement values failed to reflect the full costs of necessary work.

Mr Ridley said he wanted to see all three housing sectors — owner-occupation, private renting and social renting — operating as competitive markets with choice for house-holders. Setting out the Government's strategy for consolidating the market for owner-occupation and reviving the private rented sector, he said: "We are aiming to create a third market with housing provided below cost for those who cannot afford to buy or rent privately."

Explaining how the Housing Bill had been changed to make sure the market would work efficiently and with suf-

ficient safeguards for tenants, Mr Ridley said: "Over time I would expect the housing association movement to expand, to shoulder its new responsibilities, acting as the main providers of new social housing, at rents adapted to the needs of their tenants and taking on some former local authority housing."

"I also hope there will be a new breed of private landlord who might let some properties at market rents and some at below-market rents — new housing provided with local authority subsidy, or former council housing."

Commenting on the announcement, Mr Peter McGurk, director of the Institute of Housing, said the Government could have been more generous.

The level of council house sales and number of private sector mortgages being given meant that the level of cash available was far more than the Government originally envisaged when the public expenditure figures were put together, he said.

Russia's stately circus



Russian strongman Sergei Zonost throws Mr Simon Howard through the air during a visit by members of Moscow State Circus to his home at Castle Howard, North Yorkshire, yesterday. They made the visit after seeing the house on television in *Brideshead Revisited*.

Journalist cleared of pension plot

A financial journalist accused of conspiracy involving the *Daily Mirror* pension fund was discharged when he appeared at Guildhall Justices' Rooms in London yesterday.

The Crown Prosecution Service offered no evidence against Mr Bernard Hopegood, aged 23, of Avignon Road, Brockley, south-east London who was accused of conspiracy to handle stolen goods. But Mr Jonathan Chalk,

pensions administrator, who is charged with stealing cheques worth £550,000 was committed to the Central Criminal Court.

Mr Chalk, aged 24, of Mackenzie Road, Beckenham, south-east London, is accused of stealing 39 cheques from the Maxwell Communication Pension Trustees, obtaining 4,993 cheques by deception and attempting to obtain cash by deception.

PARLIAMENT June 17

MPs complain about tourist workers' pay

Workers in the tourist industry were among the worst paid and most exploited, Mr Tony Banks (Newham North West, Lab), said during a Commons debate on tourism. He called for improved standards in their employment rights.

The responsible minister, Mr John Lee, Under Secretary of State for Employment, said that this sort of generalization harmed the industry.

Opening the debate, Mr Lee said that the fact that he spent 8 per cent of his time on tourism was an indication of the importance the Government attached to it.

"The standards of British tourism have risen dramatically in past years and the industry's pride and confidence in itself have never been higher." The main points that he had considered last year were signposting, spotlessness, service, training and disabled people.

The industry was capitalized at £25 billion, employing 1.5 million people. Last year was a record, with 15.4 million visitors who spent £2.2 billion. The UK was fifth in the world tourist league. It was estimated to be worth £18 billion to the British economy this year, 5 per cent more than last. New jobs were being created at 1,000 a week. This was one of the fastest growing sectors of the economy.

The industry was making a substantial and growing effort to reach out to young people. The employment training initiative of the Government was an important opportunity for the industry, which planned to take 28,500 places for hotel training.

Pay and conditions and the opportunity to get on would play an important part in attracting people to the industry and enabling it to grow. These had, often justly, been used as a stick to beat the industry. Pay levels were 88 per cent higher than in 1980, with an 8.5 per cent average increase this year. That did not place staff among the highest-paid workers but there were many compensations.

Mr Banks said that it was a massive understatement to say that staff were not among the highest paid. Mr Lee should have said they were among the lowest paid and most exploited. What was he going to do to raise the standards of employment rights?

That, said Mr Lee, was the sort of generalization that did the industry so much harm. Of course there were a lot of bad employers and low-paid jobs but the industry increasingly realized that it might not be in its interests to have the high staff turnover levels of the past.

Mr Barry Sheerman, an Opposition spokesman on employment, said that the minister had painted a pretty picture but in fact there was a crisis in the tourist industry.

Whatever Mr Lee might say, working in hotels and catering for a significant number of people was a degrading experience, involving long hours, split shifts and poor pay and conditions.

Some 40 per cent of the population still did not have a holiday because of low pay or handicap and the Government should be doing something to help them.

Last year British tourists going abroad spent £1 billion more than foreign tourists spent in Britain.

It was estimated that the Channel tunnel would bring in 15 million visitors a year, but the Government had no strategy

for getting them to London in a fast and efficient manner. There were no plans for a rail tunnel under the Thames and no way of getting tourists to the regions. That was a dereliction of duty.

There ought to be a programme of forward planning on traffic in London. Whatever the attractions of the capital, no one would want to see them if the city was clogged up.

Mr Richard Holt (Lancashire, C) said that Britain had an appalling record on foreign language training. Modern language teaching for all would help. He had stood in the queue at King's Cross behind someone who did not speak English very well and there had been no one at the reservations counter who could speak anything except very bad English. The result was a total impasse that caused a lot of frustration for people trying to catch trains.

Mr Ronald Fears (Southport, SLD) said that it was boom time for tourism in the North. But it



Mr Holt: Language problems bring delays to King's Cross.

was not helped by the Tate Gallery of the North, where there was nothing but a cash machine.

Government underfunding of organizations such as English Heritage and the Countryside Commission was threatening Britain's heritage. The Government should set up a review of the needs of these bodies.

Mr Charles Wardle (Bexhill and Battle, C) said that the Channel tunnel would have an enormous impact on tourism. In 1986, eight million British people had visited France, Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium while only five million from those countries had come here.

Mr Robert Banks (Harrogate, C) said that jobs in tourism had been disastrously affected by Mickey Mouse jobs. This debate put that to rest. Work in tourism was a long-term, sophisticated career opportunity.

Mr Douglas French (Gloucester, C) said that Britain should concentrate on encouraging overseas visitors with high spending power. High quality visitors rather than quantity — people who were going to spend a lot of money — were needed.

Mr Tony Banks said that tourism was not just about tourists with well-stuffed wallets, but also about showing Britain to lots of young people who were not necessarily going to come with their wallets stuffed full.

London welcomed the great economic contribution from the enormous influx of tourists, but that influx placed great pressures on the everyday life of Londoners through the transport system and the sheer weight of numbers, as well as creating problems of litter, traffic congestion, parking chaos and pressure on hotel accommodation.

Mr David Martin (Portsmouth South, C) said that visitors would feel more welcome if the waiting time at ferry ports could be cut down.

Next week at Westminster

Rift over Labour cash to be healed

The Government will be mobilizing its payroll vote next week to help Labour and the other opposition parties (our Political staff write).

After the furore this week over the Housing Bill, the Commons debate late on Tuesday over increasing the so-called "short money" payments to the opposition parties is expected to be a heated affair.

Despite Labour's claim that he had threatened to withhold the payments in retaliation for alleged "welshing" on a deal to bring the Commons proceedings to an end on Wednesday evening, Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, yesterday tabled the motion to enable Labour's payment from official funds to go up to about £839,000. In so doing the Government is honouring the commitment made in May to increase the payments, thus enabling the "usual channels" to resume their operations in a civilized manner.

Many Conservative backbenchers, however, want to take revenge on Labour for its action in preventing the Housing Bill completing its passage this week. They are expected to line up behind a series of amendments tabled yesterday by Mr Eric Forth, MP for Mid Worcestershire, one of which would delay the payments for a year.

The private Bill delayed when Wednesday's sitting was wiped out will be considered next Wednesday. The North Killingholme Cargo Terminal Bill will be strongly opposed by mining MPs because of fears that it would allow South African coal to be imported through the expanded port.

Also on Wednesday, Labour is to attempt to exploit the dispute within the Conservative Party over the Green Belt.

It is staging a debate on the "chaos in the Government's housing and planning policies". It will attempt to embarrass Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, over his objection to a building development near his Cotswolds home, making play once again of the "not in my back yard" or NIMBY syndrome.

In the Lords, the Government is so worried that the strong gun lobby on its own benches will dilute the post-Hungerford legislation to control access to firearms that it has arranged for peers to visit the Metropolitan Police Laboratory in Lambeth, South London, on Tuesday. It is timed to defuse the growing rebellion before Friday's second reading debate on the Firearms (Amendment) Bill.

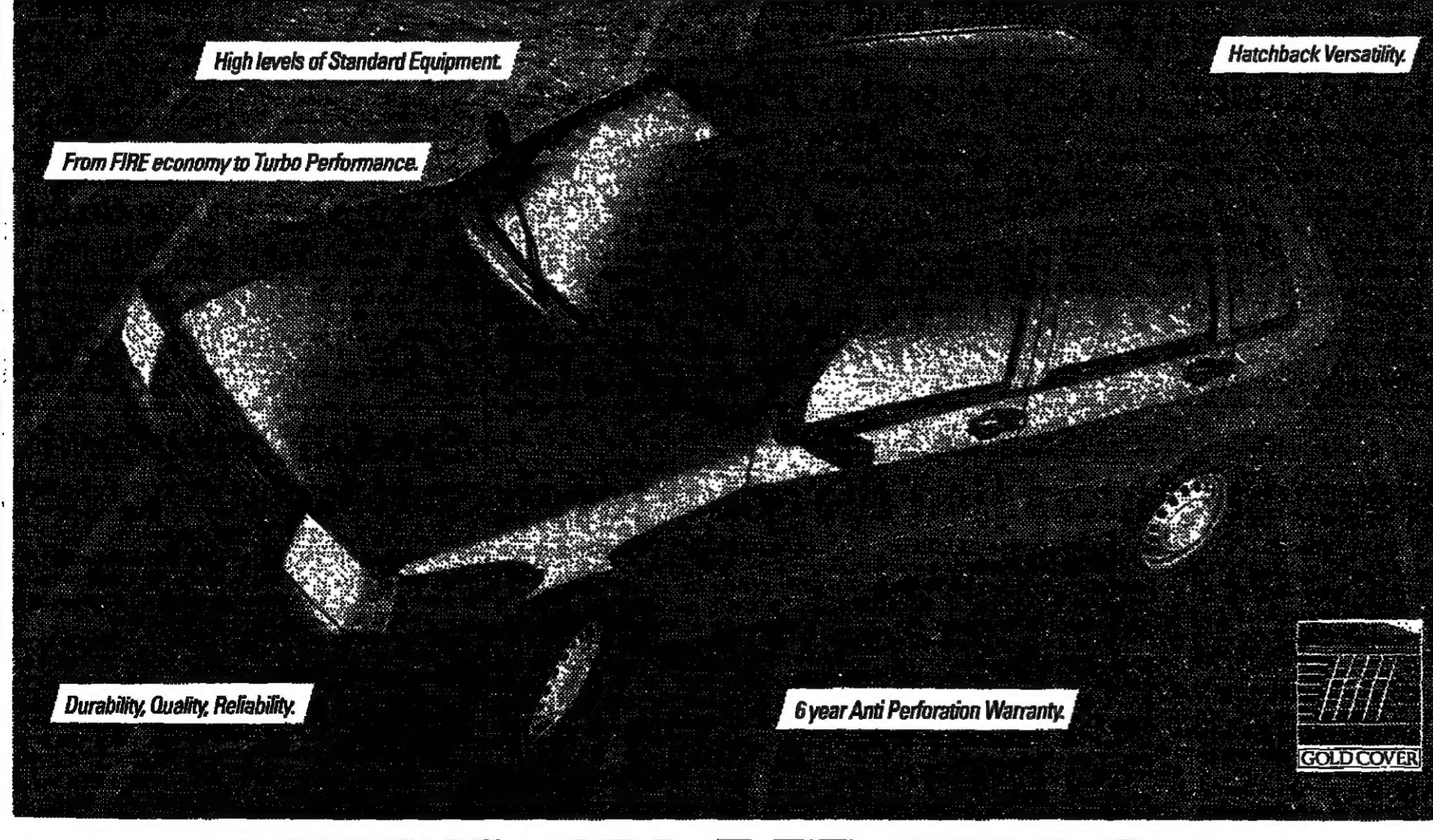
Earl Ferrers, the Home Office Minister charged with taking the Bill through the upper House, hopes that the examination of the sort of weapons now commonly used by criminals, such as Kalashnikov rifles, will persuade the critics, led by Olympic shot Lord Swansen, that tighter controls are needed.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, the Lords embark on the report stage of the Education Reform Bill, one of the flagships of the Government's legislative programme this session.

A major debate is expected to centre on moves both by the Bishop of London, Dr Graham Leonard, and a group of senior backbench peers, Lady Cox, Lord Home of the Hirsel, Viscount Tonypandy and Lord Renton, to strengthen requirements for teaching pupils the tradition and history of Christianity in state schools.

Further amendments have also been tabled to make the national curriculum less restrictive.

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Democratic candidate tells The Times of plan to challenge Thatcher over Ulster

Dukakis to fight 'discrimination'

From Charles Bremner
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

If Mr Michael Dukakis becomes the next US President, he plans to press Britain for action against anti-Catholic discrimination in Northern Ireland. But he does not believe differences with Mrs Thatcher will hinder America's "historic" special ties with London.

The Democratic candidate outlined his plans for facing the Gorbachov challenge and managing relations with Britain and Europe in an interview with *The Times* on board his jet. He was flying to the southern states to launch his campaign against Vice-President George Bush.

Doing business with Mrs Thatcher is no source of trepidation for the Massachusetts Governor, a man who has little experience in foreign affairs. "I'm a strong person, too. Strong people like strong people," he said.

On Northern Ireland, the issue which is most likely to bring Mr Dukakis into conflict with Britain, the governor compared discrimination there with racial injustice in the United States. "I have said that as an American, you ought to understand what racial discrimination means because we ourselves have had very serious and deep problems of racial discrimination."

"I thought it was important that we help and insist and encourage and not simply scold. I'm encouraged by the White Paper and by the fact that Great Britain seems to be moving (in) the same direction that we have attempted to move, not only with an official policy of being against

discrimination in employment, but with what appears to me to be at least the beginnings of affirmative action."

"Based on our experience, it just isn't enough to say, 'Well, we're against it.' If there's been a historic pattern of discrimination then you really have to take steps to affirmatively act."

Mr Dukakis said he will support the "MacBride principles", the controversial policy aimed at barring investment in companies operating in Northern Ireland which are held to discriminate against Catholics. Despite intense lobbying by Britain against the action, several US states have passed "MacBride laws" to block investment by state pension funds in big US companies operating in Northern Ireland.

"My state was one of the first to incorporate those into state legislation," Mr Dukakis said. But he does not believe this will cause too much friction. "You know, I think we can disagree occasionally. There were many in the United Kingdom who were very critical of the discrimination that was taking place in the United States until very recently. That didn't destroy our relationship."

Mr Dukakis, who has never visited Britain, says he envisages no difficulty in following in Mr Reagan's footsteps with Mrs Thatcher.

"Some of the things she has done are perhaps closer to my philosophy than mine, but on the other hand (in) encouraging entrepreneurship, investment in technology and these kinds of things she has emphasized... things that I care a lot

about as well. I don't think that it's really important that she happens to be a Tory, or Mitterrand happens to be a Socialist... The relationship between the United States and the United Kingdom is a very important one. It's historic and I think we all feel very strongly about it."

Asked about his plans to press Britain and the allies to pay more towards their de-

fence, he said: "I think I reflect general feelings here when I say that 43 years after World War Two, we'd like to see an assumption of a larger percentage of that burden." On the other hand, so much of this is "bound up with our ability to negotiate a reduction in conventional forces in Europe," he said. Mr Dukakis repeated his oft-stated view that Mr Mikhail Gorbachov is

"serious" about moving resources out of the military to the domestic economy.

Mr Dukakis thinks this will help bring about a possible breakthrough in reducing conventional forces.

The governor, who has recruited a team of eminent experts to tutor him in the intricacies of East-West strategy, denies that he plans to give away too much too easily to the Russians if elected. Mr Bush is branding him a "soft-on-communism liberal" and some of the governor's views have struck European leaders as naive.

The governor intends to halt all but research in Star Wars defence and to scrap new long-range missiles such as the Midgetman in favour of spending more on non-nuclear forces.

Scraping the Strategic Defence Initiative would end American violation of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty and encourage Moscow to reach a Start treaty curbing long-range missiles, he said, as his jet flew into Florida late on Thursday.

"I don't think Star Wars is in our national interest. Removing that barrier will be a giant step to reaching a Start treaty... If Star Wars is to serve as a bargaining chip, it's time to play it."

Mr Dukakis said he wanted to see "a healthy, law-abiding and peaceful Soviet Union and a non-expansionary Soviet Union... that increasingly allows its citizens to express themselves and emigrate if they choose to". He said he is encouraged by the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan. "It's a very good sign and I hope... we can go beyond it." Asked how he

would restore support for American leadership among a European public increasingly enthralled by Mr Gorbachov, the governor homed in on Mr Reagan's performance at the 1986 Reykjavik summit.

"I'm a very strong believer in the Western alliance, but if you're going to have an alliance it's got to be one where we consult each other and we don't announce dramatic new departures in strategic doctrine almost overnight without consultation... I'm somebody who believes in collaboration, not only its historic ties, but a very strong feeling that it is in our national interest."

Mr Dukakis says he is mindful of Europe's plans for greater integration in 1992 and the risks of increased friction with America over trade. "The line between trading partner and trading competitor is a very narrow one... I'm a strong supporter of European integration and... I think that the commitment to more trade and not less trade between us and Western Europe (should) be taken very seriously."

But 1992 should have no impact on Anglo-American ties, the governor maintained. "There's no reason why that special relationship cannot continue... My sense is today that there's a much closer and much stronger, much deeper relationship between the UK and Western Europe than there was economically and psychologically and otherwise, and I think that's a good thing and I don't think that that's harmed us in any way, but I think that it's very important that the trading door be open and that there be full collaboration."



It is not important that Mrs Thatcher is a Tory. The relationship between the United States and Britain is a very important one

Pretoria warning sparks fierce row

Johannesburg — A parliamentary row erupted in Cape Town yesterday over South Africa's warning that talks on Angola-Namibia peace were likely to collapse over haggling about the venue for the next round (Ray Kennedy writes).

Mr R. F. "Pik" Botha, the South African Minister of Foreign Affairs, has accused Angola of reneging on agreement to meet again in Brazzaville, the Congolese capital. He did not specifically deny reports that Angola has been angered by the disclosure that President Botha was planning to visit Brazzaville at the same time.

Mr Colin Eglin, leader of the liberal Progressive Federal Party, said in the House of Assembly: "The Foreign Minister should be prepared to go to the moon if this is necessary to bring peace and stability to southern Africa."

Mr Tom Langley, Conservative Party foreign affairs spokesman, replied that South Africa should refuse to take part in talks until Cuban forces near the Namibia border withdrew to the north. In Namibia, a military spokesman said the Cubans had moved 12,000 troops to within a few miles of the border.

Sarney sacks minister

Brasilia (Reuters) — President Sarney of Brazil yesterday dismissed Brigadier Roberto Camarinho, the armed forces Chief of Staff, for criticizing the Government's economic policy. Officials said that the brigadier, one of six military men with ministerial rank, had attacked a two-month pay freeze for federal employees, including military personnel.

Political analysts said it was the first time that the civilian president, who has been in power since 1985, had dismissed a minister from the military establishment on which he has depended for political support.

Red Brigades arrests

Rome — A nationwide manhunt in Italy has netted almost a dozen suspected Red Brigades terrorists as well as an arms cache (Roger Boyes writes). Police said the arrests follow the recent confessions of a repentant terrorist and represent one of the biggest operations this year against the Red Brigades.

Among the discoveries was the machine gun used in April to kill a Christian Democrat senator, Roberto Ruffilli, a close advisor to the Italian Prime Minister, Signor Ciriaco De Mita. Some of those arrested are suspected of links with the assassination of Senator Ruffilli.

Cadet murder claim

Madrid — Captain Napoleon Ortigoza, a Paraguayan Army officer who spent 25 years in prison, mainly in solitary confinement, yesterday claimed that a Paraguayan general who is now the country's ambassador to Bolivia, General Ramon Duarte, committed the 1962 murder of a cadet for which the captain was jailed (Harry Debelius writes).

Captain Ortigoza, aged 56, escaped from house arrest and fled to Buenos Aires after spending 84 days at the Colombian Embassy in Asuncion. He says he intends to accept a Spanish offer of political asylum.

Court silences Kurd

Ankara — An Istanbul court yesterday suppressed a serialised newspaper interview with Mr Abdullah Ocalan, leader of Turkey's Marxist Kurdish rebels, in which he offered a ceasefire offer with threats of attacks on Turkish cities and politicians (Rasit Gurdil writes).

Interviewed by an Istanbul daily in Lebanon, Mr Ocalan offered to end the guerrilla in south-eastern Turkey in return for the legalisation of his Kurdish Workers' Party. Mr Turgut Ozal, the Prime Minister, described the first part of the interview as "a publicity campaign for a murderer."

Aquino pays homage



President Aquino of the Philippines, on a state visit to Italy, standing with Signor Valerio Zanone, the Italian Defence Minister, left, to pay homage yesterday at the Unknown Soldier monument in Rome (Our Foreign Staff writes). The most solid outcome of her two-day visit was the signing of a series of accords covering development projects to be carried out in the Philippines under a \$270 million (£150 million) economic aid package.

Congress aides in bribes inquiry

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The offices of at least three members of the House of Representatives are under investigation as part of an inquiry into bribery involving Pentagon aides and some of the largest US military contractors, according to unconfirmed reports.

The inquiry touches 15 military firms and several dozen individuals. Mr Edwin Meese, the Attorney General, said indictments were expected within 30 to 90 days. The investigation was a "vindication" of the Government's effort to curb military fraud.

The *New York Times* quoted a law enforcement official as saying he understood that investigators were studying possible improprieties in the relationship between military contractors and congressional officials involved in procurement matters. There was no indication last night of whether members of Congress or their aides might face charges.

Federal agents have served more than 200 grand jury subpoenas this week seeking information. Search warrants have been issued against 14 big military contractors as

part of the two-year inquiry by the FBI, the Justice Department and the Naval Investigative Service.

Justice Department officials described the inquiry as the most important military fraud case ever in the US. One said it was bound to result in the "rewriting of the law on defence procurement."

The FBI has filed a court document linking the largest military contractor, McDonnell Douglas Corporation, to a reported "scheme" involving



Mr Paisley, former Navy official named in warrant.

"The illegal disclosure of information and the exertion of influence with respect to Department of Defence contracts". The eight-page document was filed in support of an application for a warrant to search McDonnell Douglas headquarters in St Louis.

The warrant stated that Mr Melvyn Paisley, a former Assistant Navy Secretary who works as a consultant for defence contractors, provided confidential or classified information to McDonnell Douglas and Mr Thomas Gunn, a vice-president in marketing.

It was alleged that Mr Paisley, a key acquisition official under Mr John Lehman, a former Navy Secretary, "relies upon government officials to provide Department of Defence contract information which is not available to the contracting public. Paisley then provides this information, for a fee or as part of his consulting contract to McDonnell Douglas."

Ex-governor, acquitted: A former governor of Arizona, Mr Evan Mecham, who was the first governor to be impeached and removed from office in more than 50 years,

has been acquitted of concealing a \$350,000 (£218,750) campaign loan.

His supporters cheered as the verdict was declared and there was immediate speculation that he might consider a future re-election bid.

Mr Mecham's brother, Wilard, was also acquitted on the same charges. The former governor had acknowledged that he did not itemize the loan on his personal or campaign financial statements, but insisted that it was an innocent mistake.

The verdict was at least a partial vindication for Mr Mecham's insistence that impeachment moves against him were unjust. He was impeached by the Arizona House and removed from office on April 4, when the state Senate convicted him of misusing money from a state protocol fund.

Mr Mecham became embroiled in controversy within a week of taking office in January 1987, when he cancelled a state holiday honouring Martin Luther King. He went on to make derogatory remarks about women, Jews, homosexuals and Japanese Americans.

Big shake-up for US welfare system

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington

The United States is to implement the most sweeping welfare reform in more than 30 years, moving the emphasis from dependency to a new era of "workfare" programmes forcing able-bodied people to take jobs.

The Senate voted 93-3 for the overhaul, reflecting a remarkable bipartisan consensus on tearing down the structure set up in 1935 under President Roosevelt's "new deal" policies.

The House of Representatives has already passed its own version. The two measures will now be reconciled and a Bill sent to President Reagan later this year. Many important concessions were inserted in the Senate version to avoid a presidential veto, but there is still unease in the White House about the heavy initial cost of the overhaul.

By far the biggest slice of welfare goes to single mothers with children. The aim is to help those women get out of a cycle of dependency. There are more than three million single mothers and 400,000 fathers on welfare, affecting seven million children.

The Senate Bill forces states to provide large-scale programmes of education, training and work for able-bodied welfare recipients, except those with children aged under three. States would have the option of lowering the exempt group to those with children under a year old. The House measure, essentially makes the same proposals.

The Senate measure will provide \$500 million (about £270 million) in grants to the states in 1989, rising to \$1 billion in 1992 and each year

thereafter. It is estimated that, by 1993, 105,000 people a year would be participating in the programmes... with 10,000 families a year leaving the welfare rolls. States would be required to help provide child care for up to nine months after a single parent moved from welfare to work.

Several states have already embarked on "workfare" programmes. In theory, welfare recipients who refuse to work are denied benefits. In practice, nobody has been cut off from welfare.

The Senate measure requires fathers in two-parent families to spend at least 16 hours a week in community service in exchange for welfare benefits. At present, about half the states provide no welfare to two-parent families, leading to the break-up of families so they can qualify for payments. The proposed law would force all states to provide benefits for at least six months a year.

The cost of the Bill is estimated at \$7 billion over five years, compared with \$2.6 billion for the Senate Bill. Sponsors of both expressed confidence that compromises could be reached.

Judge rejects claim over Iran-Contra evidence

Washington — The judge in the Iran-Contra conspiracy case has rejected defence complaints that evidence against the defendants is tainted (Christopher Thomas writes). He formally made a preliminary decision to proceed to trial.

US District Court Judge Gerhard Gesell has previously said that he hopes to dispose of other pre-trial issues by July

1 and to set a trial date soon afterwards. Separate trials are to be held for former Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North and his three co-defendants.

The judge rejected defence claims that immunized testimony given by three of the defendants during the Iran-Contra hearings in Congress was used by prosecutors in preparing their case. "The grand jury transcripts and

exhibits reflect solid proof and ample probable cause to indict on each and every count," he said.

Mr North, a former National Security Council aide, is accused with retired Air Force Major-General Richard Secord, Rear-Admiral John Poindexter, the former National Security Adviser, and Mr Albert Hakim, an arms dealer. Judge Gesell said that

precautions were taken by prosecutors to keep themselves, the grand jury and the testimony presented to it untainted by immunized statements given to Congress.

Mr Lawrence Walsh, the special prosecutor, issued a statement saying that he was pleased with the ruling and that he was prepared to go to trial. He intends to try Mr North first.

Corruption clouds darken poll horizon

Suddenly the air is thick with corruption. The huge investigation into bribery surrounding Pentagon defence contracts threatens to suck in senior officers in all four services, congressmen, consultants and Administration officials.

It comes at the worst possible moment for the hapless Republican candidate, Vice-President George Bush, as the indictments will be swirling around Washington just as the election campaign heats up.

The trial of Mr Oliver North looms on the horizon. The Justice Department is itself in turmoil as the special prosecutor comes ever closer to branding the behaviour of Mr Edwin Meese, the embattled Attorney General, as unethical if not downright criminal.

On Capitol Hill, Mr Jim Wright, the Democratic Speaker, faces a full ethics investigation into his questionable book contract — one that paid him an extraordinary 55 per cent royalty and locked him and his Texas publisher, who collected \$250,000 (£140,000) for the Wright campaign, into what looked like a cosy arrangement to transform campaign contributions into book royalties.

Republicans, sleaze might be seen as an ideal campaign issue. The Democrats are portraying the Reagan Administration as the most venal of modern times, running through the list of more than 100 people who have been accused, indicted or convicted of crimes or who have resigned amid charges of unethical behaviour or otherwise forced to leave office under a cloud. Names such as Michael Deaver, Lyn Nofziger, Oliver North and John Poindexter will run like a leitmotif through the autumn oratory.

But the Democrats are also finding, as one conservative put it gleefully, that it is sauce for the gander time in Washington. The Wright affair may be legally convoluted, but ethically it looks simple — and bad. The Speaker wrote or, rather, used a congressional aide to compile, a book of political "reflections", a surprisingly slim volume given his wordsy prolixity.

It was not sold in bookshops, but the Teamsters Union snapped up 1,000 copies, and a lobbyist bought another batch. The book was published by a political associate who had benefited nicely from campaign printing services. Mr Wright got a substantial amount of money

in royalties that he could not have otherwise received as campaign contributions.

Mr Wright insists he has done nothing illegal. But he has clearly been embarrassed. His television appearances, untroubled at the best of times, have become increasingly oleaginous as he has parried tough questioning with a forced smile. He points out that many public figures have been paid more generously by their publishers. And he voices confidence that the House

Washington View

By Michael Binyon

ethics committee will find him innocent of wrongdoing.

But legality and ethics are not the same. And many Americans are increasingly disturbed that to be "ethical" in Washington these days means no more than having escaped conviction. For this reason ethics investigations, instead of focusing on the broad issues of trust, morality and propriety, are simply legalistic proceedings — boring the country and obscuring the issue.

"Ethics, schmethics," is how one headline summed up the prevailing mood. It reduces the likelihood of an election

debate on ethics, even though both parties believe they have ample ammunition. Indeed, many people outside the Washington hothouse give a cynical shrug, insist that corruption is endemic to politics, and say all the current self-righteous finger-pointing is merely media exaggeration.

But there is one body equally guilty of political hypocrisy: Congress, which Mark Twain once called the only "distinctive native American criminal class".

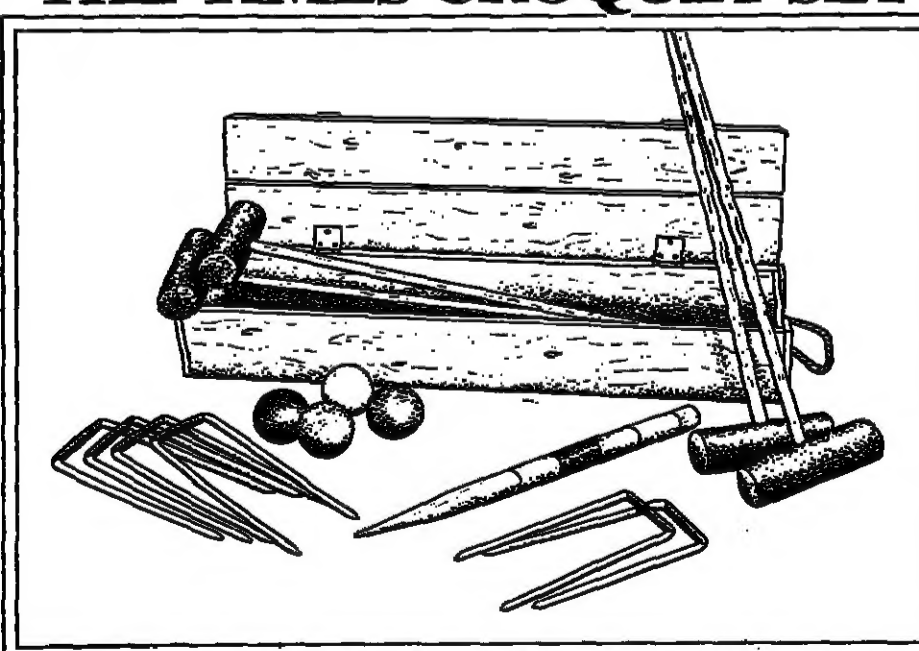
Mr Wright's behaviour is routine compared with the other ways congressmen enrich themselves. Senator Howard Metzenbaum earned a "finder's fee" of \$250,000 for two brief telephone calls helping to arrange the sale of a Washington hotel. The outcry led him to return the money. Senator Lloyd Bentsen backed down amid the howls at his plan to charge lobbyists \$10,000 for breakfast with him.

But speakers' fees, honoraria and consultation fees are common and lucrative. Senators and congressmen often do not have to say a word in public to earn the legal ceiling of \$2,000 — they can earn that much by dropping in at the American Trucking Association on Capitol Hill and

spending an hour answering questions for the staff.

In 1986 the American Council of Highway Advertisers held an annual meeting in Barbados, treating at least two legislators and their wives to a few days in the sun as well as generous honoraria.

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Opposing votes deepen Armenian crisis

Kremlin forced into corner

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The Kremlin faced the prospect of being sucked deeper into the grave ethnic crisis in the south of the country yesterday when the Azerbaijani parliament voted to reject a request that the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh be handed back to Armenia.

The vote, which contradicted a unanimous vote by the Armenian parliament on Wednesday that the mountainous territory should be restored to Armenian control, was expected to provoke an angry reaction from its mainly Armenian population. Even before it was taken, Kremlin officials admitted that the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh was out of control.

With the parliaments of the two neighbouring republics now at loggerheads, both citing different articles of the Soviet Constitution to back their case, it appeared that some form of Kremlin mediation would have to take place. But no Soviet official was able to say when it would happen, or what form it would take.

The dispute, which has been raging for four months and has already provoked the biggest street demonstrations in Soviet history, has shown little sign of dying down despite the imposition of strict security measures and the introduction of a limited package of reforms.

After yesterday's vote in Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan, Mr Elchim Bagirov, the republic's Foreign Ministry spokesman, said: "The

Supreme Soviet of Azerbaijan considered that the departure of the Nagorno-Karabakh autonomous region ... contradicted the Constitution of the Soviet Union as well as the traditional ties of friendship between the Armenian and Azerbaijani peoples."

He said that the resolution described as unacceptable a request by the governing council of Nagorno-Karabakh - whose capital, Stepanakert, has been in a state of near anarchy in recent weeks - for the territory to be ceded to Armenia, which lost control of it in 1923.

Yesterday's decision followed the vote in the Armenian Supreme Soviet 48 hours earlier in favour of annexation. That was denounced yesterday by an Azerbaijani legal expert as illegal. He cited



Mr S. Arutyunyan: Party chief in troubled Armenia.

Article 78 of the Soviet Constitution which says that

internal borders may be redrawn only with the consent of all concerned republics. The same article had been cited to foreign newsmen by a Kremlin spokesman.

The Armenians rest their case on Article 70 of the same Constitution which says that nations in the Soviet Union have the right to "free determination".

"The Kremlin now faces a classic dilemma. Whichever side it comes down on, it cannot fail to alienate the other one," a European envoy said last night. "The situation is so sensitive and potentially explosive that Mr Gorbachev may now try to play for time."

"Now that Azerbaijan has closed the door on any change in status, it is difficult to see how things in Stepanakert can fail to go from bad to worse."

Red Cross plea on missing soldiers

Moscow - The Soviet Red Cross yesterday issued a dramatic appeal on behalf of the 311 Soviet soldiers missing after the Afghan war, many of whom are presumed to be prisoners held by Muslim rebel groups inside Afghanistan and across the border in Pakistan (Christopher Walker writes).

The appeal, addressed to the "world public", was published by Tass. It gave the addresses of the Soviet Red Cross and Red Crescent societies in Moscow and called for

any information on the whereabouts of these missing. The move followed mounting public pressure for Kremlin action to find the missing men, including demands published in the official press for a special fund to be set up in order to pay ransoms.

"The undeclared war against the Republic of Afghanistan left many bleeding wounds on the body of this much suffering land," the appeal said. "Among those killed, wounded and missing were Soviet servicemen on the

territory of Afghanistan. The fate of Soviet soldiers who went missing concerns not only their kith and kin but every Soviet citizen as well. Despite the work of the Red Cross, "little has been accomplished over these years" to find the missing men, the society said.

In a separate development, the Soviet Red Cross has given 50,000 roubles (£50,000) to establish a co-operative organization to help to alleviate the shortage of artificial limbs for Afghan veterans.

King holds court



King Juan Carlos of Spain, taking a break during a game of squash with Mr Nick Greiner, the New South Wales Premier, at the Parliament House, Sydney, yesterday.

Vietnam in peace bid with Thais

Bangkok - Thailand and Vietnam yesterday declared that they would work together to end the Cambodian conflict (Neil Kelly writes). After two days of talks here the two governments said that they would send representatives to a peace conference in Indonesia.

The peace talks, decided on after the first bilateral talks for three years, will be the first involving all parties to the conflict, now in its tenth year. The Jakarta Government hopes to hold the conference next month.

Basque fury

Madrid - Eta sympathizers set fire to buses and trains in several northern Spanish cities after an activist in the Basque separatist group died in jail. Meanwhile, the police launched a four-province hunt for a businessman who was kidnapped more than 16 weeks ago.

Chinese jailed

Hong Kong (Reuters) - Hong Kong has imposed prison sentences for the first time on Chinese illegal immigrants, with 24 being jailed in the colony for 15 months.

Crew rescued

Tokyo (Reuters) - A Japanese tuna boat rescued five Costa Rican fishermen adrift in the Pacific for five months. They were found nearly 600 miles south-east of Honolulu.

Down to earth

Moscow (Reuters) - A three-man Soviet-Bulgarian cosmonaut crew landed in Kazakhstan after completing an intensive 10-day research mission on board the Mir orbiting space station.

Swap talks

Windhoek (AFP) - A group of 20 white Namibians have left for Stockholm to meet the leadership of the Namibian guerrilla group, the South-West African People's Organization (Swapo).

Dhaka riots

Dhaka - Crowds tore down billboards and burnt buses amid violent protests against new tax measures.

Poles drop oath of allegiance to Russian armed forces

Warsaw (Reuters) - The Polish Parliament voted unanimously yesterday to introduce a new military oath that drops a controversial loyalty pledge to the Soviet armed forces. The move came in a session at which the first big items of new legislation were presented since General Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, launched a reform programme in autumn.

The old Polish army oath, introduced in 1952, pledged recruits to "relentlessly safeguard peace in fraternal alliance with the Soviet Army and other allied armies". Conscripts will now swear to "safeguard peace in brotherhood of arms with allied armies". The

allies are not identified. The new wording was welcomed by the dissident pacifist group Freedom and Peace, which had campaigned for the change for three years. Dozens of its members have been jailed or sent to penal battalions for refusing to take the old oath.

The new oath also deletes a reference to defending Poland against "imperialist encroachment" and replaces a pledge of loyalty to the Government with a promise to "faithfully serve the nation and homeland".

The Freedom and Peace group is still campaigning for alternative service for conscientious objectors. Fifteen activists are in jail for

refusing the call-up but the Government has promised a change.

At the same parliamentary session, the Government also set out its plans to encourage private enterprise and smooth the way for foreign investors.

Three draft laws were presented by the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Zdzislaw Sadowski. They were a Bill liberalizing conditions for setting up business, a Bill on joint ventures with foreigners and a Bill permitting enterprises to raise capital by issuing bonds.

Mr Sadowski also tabled an amendment to the foreign trade law permitting individual foreigners to set up business in

Poland. "They are very important changes in policy," a Western diplomat said.

The Bill on undertaking economic activities sweeps aside bureaucratic controls and restrictions on setting up most forms of business and is expected to unleash a private enterprise boom.

Requirements for starting industrial undertakings will be reduced to simple registration. Licences will be retained only in strategic fields.

The proposed new joint ventures law liberalizes an unsuccessful 1986 statute and Western diplomats said it made Polish regulations "competitive with laws in other eastern European countries".

The draft drops requirements that the manager and 51 per cent of capital should be Polish. Foreign companies will be able to set up virtually on their own with managers of their choice - including expatriates.

● New minister: Mr Tadeusz Olechowski, a 62-year-old career diplomat, has replaced Mr Marian Orzechowski as Foreign Minister.

● BELGRADE: More than 10,000 Yugoslavs demonstrated angrily outside Parliament yesterday, shouting "we want bread" and calling on the Government to resign (Reuters reports). It was the biggest workers' protest seen on Yugoslav streets and was triggered

by pay cuts and other austerity measures.

Some 5,000 striking workers from the Zmaj Tractor Factory in Belgrade marched through the streets waving huge red banners and flags and pictures of Tito, the former leader. At least 5,000 people on their way home from work joined the protest.

Workers accused the Government of corruption and incompetence. The strike and protest, organized by the official trade union, was legal.

Inflation, dwindling wages and falling living standards have provoked an increasing number of strikes in Yugoslavia.

Vatican documents show scope of concessions

Defiant Lefebvre risks schism

By Clifford Longley and Roger Boyes

The Roman Catholic Church is on the verge of its most serious split for more than a century, with the imminent defiance by Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre of instructions from the Pope that he desist from consecrating four new bishops.

Both sides now appear to accept the inevitability of the break, technically called a schism, in spite of strenuous negotiations which at one point seemed near success.

The Vatican has now released confidential correspondence between the Pope and the right-wing archbishop, who leads an international movement called the Fraternity of St Pius X. It includes a direct appeal: "I urge you with all my heart to return in humility and with full obedience to the Vicar of Christ."

The documents show some of the scope of the concessions already made by the Vatican to head off the ultra-conservative archbishop - suspended since 1976 - from ordaining four bishops later this month.

Meanwhile, Archbishop Lefebvre said in an interview with *Le Figaro* newspaper, published in Paris yesterday, that he would maintain his decision to ordain four priests

as bishops without papal approval, even though the Vatican has threatened him with excommunication.

He is 82, and unless he consecrates one or more bishops before he dies his order will no longer be able to ordain its own priests and will inevitably die out. The Vatican appeared to have met him more than half way, accepting that the order would be allowed to continue, and even have its own bishops, provided the Pope was involved in their selection.

In his interview he was still defiant, saying: "I remain faithful to Pope John Paul II as the successor to Saint Peter, but I will not adhere to his modernist errors. I disobey the Pope in order to obey God." Asked about the schism he had created, he replied: "What schism? I am schismatic to those people I consider to be outside the Catholic Church and who are therefore themselves schismatic."

His decision to break with Rome would create difficulties for his followers for many years, he said, but it would be seen that he was right. He said his decision to include a North American and a South American-based



Archbishop Lefebvre: poised to defy the Pope's orders.

priest among the four to be ordained as bishops was because of his "fear of an invasion of Europe by the communists, which will cut us off from America and our followers there. Our priests in Europe will be immobilized."

His movement, which rejects some of the teachings of the Second Vatican Council, also has a strong political flavour in France particularly, where it is aligned with the far-right. He said that the priests to be ordained had been reluctant at the beginning.

But he had persuaded them, saying they must face up to their responsibilities.

Archbishop Lefebvre has become a rallying point for the most traditionally-minded

Catholics, who felt suspicious about the changes introduced by the Second Vatican Council (1962 to 1965).

His Fraternity of St Pius X, with its headquarters in Ecône, Switzerland, now has religious houses in dozens of countries and has ordained more than 200 priests.

There is said to be a worldwide following of hundreds of thousands.

The row with the Vatican now is over the same issue of discipline. Cardinal Edouard Gagnon, an Apostolic Visitor to the Ecône seminary, drew up a draft agreement earlier this year. It said the Vatican would approve a bishop, perhaps more, from a list submitted by Archbishop Lefebvre, provided he surrendered to the discipline of the Church and agreed to accept the full implications of the Second Vatican Council.

On May 5 Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the Vatican's chief theologian, presented the formula to Archbishop Lefebvre, who seemed to accept its essentials. But he never formally signed the agreement. The reason is obscure.

But there is still some hope in the Vatican that Archbishop Lefebvre is just playing poker - that the threat of a schism is designed to force fresh concessions.

Peres party rejuvenates image

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

The Israeli Labour Party has radically changed its image for the November elections, putting younger people at the top of its list of candidates, including for the first time a significant number of Sephardic Oriental Jews as well as people with a strong religious background. The object of the central committee is obviously to attract voters from these two important categories, which traditionally vote for the rival Likad faction.

But in changing its image the party has discarded one of its best known, most experienced and loyal servants - Mr Abba Eban, a former Foreign Minister and most eloquent of Israel's advocates on the world stage. Now aged 73, he pleaded the case for a Jewish state at the United Nations before Israel came into being 40 years ago. He was clearly deeply hurt by his failure to obtain a realistic place in party elections.

These elections were meant to democratize the party by allowing the grassroots to pick preferred representatives, rather than the old guard, Ashkenazi establishment. Mr Eban fell foul of the system because he refused to enter into deals with party factions to win support.

"Democratization is not for individuals," he said. "The leadership of the party has not helped me because they were too busy fighting for their own places on the list."

All Labour's existing ministers were, in fact, successful in winning a high place, although two other sitting Knesset members - like Mr Eban - failed to do so.

Mr Moshe Shaleh, the Energy Minister, who came top of the poll, said that Mr Eban was "irreplaceable". Mr Teddy Kollek, the Mayor of Jerusalem and a senior party figure, said: "We will be sorry."

Eban said sadly: "I have travelled a long journey with the Israeli Labour movement and carried its flag for a whole generation proclaiming its message and values throughout our country and the world. It is clear that I cannot carry this banner as in the past."

Those who will carry the banner include notably four Oriental Jews of Moroccan origin who are charismatic leaders designed to woo the Sephardic votes away from Likad. That seems to be Labour's best chance in the November elections.

● Tactics changed: The Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories has changed character, Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli Defence Minister, claimed yesterday. The days of mass protests with stone-throwing and burning-tyre barricades were largely over. Instead, there was a growth in more dangerous and isolated attacks on soldiers by petrol bombers.

The Army has been ordered to seal off or destroy the homes of suspected petrol bombers or buildings from which petrol bombs have been thrown. Over a 24-hour period up to yesterday morning, 20 buildings were demolished or sealed.

One Palestinian was shot dead and more than 20 others injured, as well as two Israeli officers, when troops met fierce resistance during a dawn raid to blow up a house in Beit Furik, south-east of Nablus, in the West Bank.

According to Mr Rabin, however, this type of violent action is on the way out. "We have to a great extent, not completely, gained control of the component of violence that typifies what the Arabs call the *intifada* (uprising)," he said in a radio interview.

The Association for Civil Rights in Israel is fighting a test case to force the Army to give 48-hours warning to any family whose home it intends to destroy.

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THIS SUNDAY IN

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Athens invokes the Luxembourg compromise

Greek 'veto' takes fizz out of EEC farm price accord

From Jonathan Brande, Luxembourg

A Greek veto took the fizz out of a well-earned champagne breakfast yesterday, as 12 EEC agriculture ministers saw the fruits of an all-night negotiating session slip from their grasp.

The corks had already popped and the sparkling EEC-subsidized nectar beckoned from 12 glasses, begging to be raised in a toast to the successful conclusion of a farm price package for the 1988-89 season.

But, defeated by 11 votes to one on an issue of enormous financial importance to his farmers, Mr Yannis Potakis, the Greek Minister, was not prepared to drown his sorrows in champagne. Using a formula known in Euro-speak as the Luxembourg compromise, which avoids any direct use of the term 'veto', Mr Potakis said that a matter of vital national interest was at stake and demanded that negotiations continue.

Other ministers were furious. Of far more consequence than the cancellation of the traditional libation, the long-awaited agreement on prices had been blocked, delaying again the start of the season.

Under the forceful chair-

manship of Herr Ignaz Kiechle, the 12 ministers and Mr Frans Andriessen, the Commissioner for Agriculture, had spent the past four days and one night constructing a perfectly fashioned compromise freezing prices for produce. In return for a promise of better rewards for farmers next January.

Champagne today and jam tomorrow. An irresistible combination for most; but

Curbs on pollution

Luxembourg - British consumers face rising electricity bills as the power industry picks up the tab for a 15-year EEC programme to limit the sulphur and nitrogen oxide emissions from chimneys (Jonathan Brande writes).

Lord Calthness, Minister of State for the Environment, yesterday agreed to tough new pollution limits on large coal-fired industrial plants, which he admitted would cost hundreds of millions of pounds.

He said higher electricity bills were a small price to pay for the improvement in the environment. The decision would have no effect on the timetable for privatization of the electricity industry, Lord Calthness added.

The new EEC goals for Britain are a 20 per cent cut in sulphur emissions by 1993, 40 per cent by 1998, and 60 per cent by the year 2003, which go well beyond existing plans to cut emissions by 30 per cent by the late 1990s. The minister agreed to cut UK nitrogen oxide emissions by 15 and 30 per cent in two stages.

Ship's crew held Nigerian port officials have arrested two Danish officers and a crew of six on board a Danish vessel on suspicion of illegally dumping 3,800 tons of toxic waste in the southern port of Koko.

unfortunately not attractive enough for Mr Potakis, who wanted more jam.

More upsetting still for the purists, the Greek Minister had got his procedures muddled. The Luxembourg compromise, insisted the French (who invented it, and should know), can be invoked only before a vote, not after it. It was therefore invalid.

Eleven countries had accepted the package and un-

constitutional behaviour by the Greeks would not shake their resolve.

Nonetheless, the champagne was discreetly withdrawn from the negotiating table and Herr Kiechle spent the next two-and-a-half hours desperately trying to get his Greek colleague to do the decent thing.

But despite the great sympathy for the Greek problem that other ministers suddenly developed that morning (or at least that's what the junior German Minister, Herr Walter Kittel, claimed afterwards), Mr Andriessen was unable to come forward with a plan to help him out without first bringing the matter before his Commission colleagues.

The Commissioner disputed the Greek claim that there was room in the budget for the extra cash he wanted for his farmers. Neither he nor Herr Kiechle was prepared to make any commitment to solve the problem, postponing it instead.

The farming community, however, for whom a formal start to the season gets more urgent every day, will be hoping that a solution can be found in the next few days.

Hezbollah raid rescues child hostages



Family reunion: The al-Ariss children, Dana, Samer and Ramzi, relaxing with their parents at home in Beirut yesterday.

Beirut (Reuters) - Militiamen of the Shia Hezbollah (Party of God) stormed a shack in south Beirut yesterday and rescued three children whose kidnappers had demanded a \$3 million (£1.6 million) ransom, the militia said.

A spokesman for the pro-Iranian group said about 10 militiamen launched the rescue operation after a suspect revealed the hideout. They stormed the shack, hidden among sand dunes near Beirut airport, and rescued Dana al-Ariss, aged 13, and her brothers Samer, aged 11, and Ramzi, aged five.

They had been held since Tuesday when six gunmen seized them on their way to school. The gunmen, who fired on

the children's police escort, demanded \$3 million from their father, Mr Zuhair al-Ariss, a foreign exchange dealer. No ransom was paid, the spokesman said. A security source said the kidnappers were a Hezbollah group acting without the knowledge of the militia.

The mother and sisters of another Beirut hostage, Mr Brian Keenan, who has joint Irish and British nationality, yesterday issued an emotional plea for his release. The appeal, signed by Mrs Maria Keenan and two daughters, was published in several Beirut newspapers.

It said: "We appeal to those who hold Brian Keenan to free him and if you are not prepared to release him now, we ask

you to announce what must be done for him to gain his freedom. We are poor people but we are prepared to do anything we can to help Brian."

Mr Keenan, aged 36, an English teacher at the American University of Beirut, was seized on April 11, 1986.

The Hezbollah spokesman said there had been no shooting in the rescue of the al-Ariss children, and one guard had been detained. He added that Syrian troops had not taken part in the operation, but Hezbollah had co-ordinated with the Syrians on the case.

The children had been handed over to the head of a Syrian observer force in Lebanon who took them home.

Korea court reform

Junior judges oust the Chief Justice

From Gavin Bell, Seoul

The Chief Justice of South Korea's Supreme Court has been forced to resign after an unprecedented campaign by junior colleagues for sweeping reforms to restore the independence of the judiciary.

Judge Kim Yong Chul, aged 63, stepped down yesterday after almost 300 younger judges signed a statement saying the public had lost confidence in their profession, which was associated with past authoritarian regimes.

The judges said the judiciary was widely perceived as being subservient to the Government, and was out of step with democratic reforms transforming other sectors of society. Their petition was the first collective movement by judges in the 40-year history of the modern judicial system in South Korea. All 12 judges of the Supreme Court are expected to resign shortly.

Judge Kim was nominated in 1986 by the former President Chun. His appointment

Tokyo (Reuters) - North Korea yesterday criticized a Seoul report last week that Pyongyang had massed troops near the border and could launch an attack, according to the North Korean Central News Agency. The *Rodong Sinmun* party paper said the report aimed to divert South Koreans' attention from other problems.

was approved by the National Assembly, then controlled by the ruling Democratic Justice Party. The Government had been planning to keep him in office, at least until his present term expired in 1991.

Judge Kim said that he had been shocked by the judges' campaign, and the last few days had been "the most agonizing period in my life". Assuming responsibility for the failure to implement reforms, he expressed contrition in the traditional oriental manner: "I did my best to develop the judiciary, but I failed because of my incompetence and lack of virtue."

The dissident campaign also surprised and dismayed senior officials of the ruling party, judging by their comments during an emergency meeting on Thursday. One was quoted as saying: "What the hell is going on? Another declared grumpily that "the nation is in a mess".

Mr Kim Zoong Wie, the party spokesman, described

the affair as "a regrettable incident".

In a terse statement, he indicated concern about demands by opposition leaders for a say in future judicial appointments: "We will respect the opinions of judiciary officials. But the appointment of the Chief Justice and Supreme Court justices should not be subject to political bargaining."

His assertion is likely to be ignored by the opposition, which now effectively controls the National Assembly and which has hailed the judges' petition as a courageous move. The two largest opposition parties have said they each wish to recommend two members of the Supreme Court in return for endorsing the Government's nominee for Chief Justice.

According to the dissident judges, the executive has controlled the judiciary for at least 16 years. They complain of persistent "outside pressure", notably by officials of the Korean CIA who intervened in security cases.

One judge who signed the petition said he had been afraid to enter court during the Chun regime. "Defendants and the public used to boo and call me names, while in the corner there were always government officials noting everything I said."

Another said the dissident campaign would continue until there were genuine reforms: "If the custom persists of intervening in the appointment of judges, and firing others in retaliation for their judgements, our protests will go on."

The judges' action has gained widespread approval from independent commentators, who have expressed impatience at the slow pace of democratic reforms by the administration of President Roh.

The *Korea Times*, condemning abuses of civil rights under the previous regime, said the judiciary had been a "stooge" of the ruling camp.

"Despite slogans for democratic reforms, the judiciary alone has remained unchanged for no plausible reason... The public cannot understand why the Government and its party have been hesitant about undertaking a judiciary reshuffle much earlier," the paper asserted.



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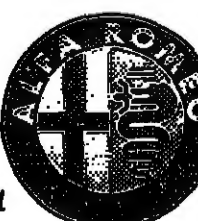
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PERILS IN IRELAND

In the aftermath of the bomb murders in Lisburn the Prime Minister and Northern Ireland Secretary found themselves on the receiving end of now-familiar calls to reintroduce internment in the province. For reasons which remain as clear and strong now as they have been in the past, this should be resisted.

The aims of terrorists include spreading feelings of impotence and frustration. They either seek to force the authorities into cruelty or indiscriminate use of force which will build up their support in the community at large; or they hope that the frustration caused by their apparent inability to kill and injure with ease will be channelled towards politics. They hope that in its desperation, society will weary of the struggle and abandon the principles for which its servants have died.

There is a time and a place for internment in anti-terrorist action, but if it is to be used again in Ireland, that time is in the last stages of terrorist violence, when both the Republic and the United Kingdom are operating in effective harmony and both are in a secure political and operational position to introduce it selectively — on both sides of the border at once.

Only in that way would the IRA be denied the huge propaganda advantage which internment would give them. There is no tide of violence threatening the imminent disintegration of the social fabric in Northern Ireland. The IRA long ago abandoned any such strategy, although it is doubtful whether, even at their worst, they have commanded the resources to achieve such a thing. They have been compelled by the success of the security forces to work towards their objectives by regular killing, which can be carried out with small numbers of killers and small quantities of equipment.

Such tactics might be interrupted by the internment of known activists, but it would only be an interruption. A comprehensive anti-terrorist policy in Northern Ireland must not only "stop" terrorism but ensure that it cannot restart. The policy must be developed in such a way as to make the maximum use of the cooperation and coordination available from the Republic. As this week's extradition fiasco shows, this still has a long way to go.

The policy must cut terrorists off from the community which sustains them emotionally and politically and from which recruits come.

That may entail social and political reform. The incarceration of terrorists must be achieved by methods which command the maximum public support for conviction and imprisonment for long terms.

Internment satisfies none of these criteria. It can only otherwise be justified as a policy of despair. It promises a bleak vision of a society which would be opening and closing internment camps well into the next century.

It would also make real the picture of Northern Ireland which some American politicians claim to see now. Governor Dukakis has so far avoided the most lurid extremes of Irish-American vote-catching fantasy, but in the interview with *The Times* published today, he lays down a marker which sounds reasonable enough, yet carries ominous overtones.

He says that he supports the "MacBride Principles", which have been adopted by a number of American states (including Massachusetts) and which contain a checklist of anti-discrimination measures modelled on the Sullivan Principles aimed at South Africa. The drafters of the code claim they had no intention of putting pressure on companies to disinvest — a claim which it is difficult to take at face value. The document is also vague about whether or not companies should practise positive discrimination in favour of the minority, which would anyway be illegal in the United Kingdom.

Support for the principles is exactly the kind of position which American politicians find easy to take on issues at the margins of their attention. It sounds the right note for Irish-American voters, without in any way being contaminated by association with the IRA.

Few nationalist politicians, in either the south or north of Ireland, support the principles, although they may well wish the British Government would act more vigorously on religious discrimination in employment. Apart from the reasons above, they know well that this kind of code can tip the scales against Northern Ireland when an American company is making a finely-balanced decision over investment. If Mr Dukakis were to deepen his research into the subject he might conclude that support for MacBride satisfies an emotional and political need but poses practical dangers.

FROM ROME TO MOSCOW

One of the few Christian leaders who did not travel to Moscow to attend the celebrations for the millennium of the Russian Orthodox Church was Pope John Paul II. He certainly wished to attend, and Russian Church leaders, in conjunction with the Soviet authorities, wanted to invite him. But both recognized the impossibility of such a visit at present.

The Pope insisted that he could not accept an invitation to Moscow unless he were permitted to visit the Catholic congregations of the Baltic States and the Ukraine. The Soviet leaders, who had seen the impact of the first Papal visit to Poland, regarded such a visit as too great a risk. But the absence of the Pope from the festivities in Moscow and Kiev did not mean that Rome was unrepresented.

In an unusual gesture of good will, the Vatican sent a scarlet flush of cardinals to Moscow, led by Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, its Secretary of State. Their attendance was a signal that the Vatican is ready, even eager, to do business — and the signal found a ready response. Cardinal Casaroli was received by Mikhail Gorbachev in person.

The cardinal passed on a private letter from the Pope and praised the Soviet leader's "statesmanly wisdom". Mr Gorbachev responded by giving the cardinal a polite but clear warning of the conditions he attaches to the new relationship: the Roman Catholic Church must not act in such a way as to destabilize the Soviet system. Poland is an awful warning to Moscow that while the Pope may have no divisions, to recall Stalin's foolish gibe, he hardly needs them.

One of the perils of *glasnost* for the Soviet authorities is the encouragement it gives to regionalism and nationalism. The USSR comprises nations which are even more diverse than the nations of Western Europe. So far, they have been held together by the power of the central state apparatus rather than by the will of the people. *Glasnost* requires a transfer of part of that power from the centre to the people. And some of those people have deep grievances, not least over the way Soviet state power has tried to manipulate and undermine their religious faith and allegiance.

That allegiance has consequently become a badge of resistance and a focus for nationalist

pride. And where the Church in question was in communion with Rome, its very existence has represented a loyalty which competes with the total commitment demanded by communism.

The issue of religious freedom in the Soviet Union is not only about opening closed churches, synagogues and mosques and removing official and unofficial sanctions on religious belief and observance. Those are the easier things to do — although progress so far has been patchy and Mr Gorbachev's conscience should not be as clear as he may protest it is. The harder concessions for the State concern the cases which have taken on an overtly political character. The treatment of Catholics, for instance, is complicated by the nationalist sentiment with which it is bound up in the Baltic States and the Ukraine. The treatment of Jews is always overshadowed by Soviet relations with Israel.

For Kremlin-Vatican relations, it is the Ukraine that may set the hardest test of all. The Ukrainian Catholic Church, which is not "Roman" in the technical sense because it does not use the Latin rite, was forcibly merged by Stalin with the Russian Orthodox Church after the war, but has remained in existence in the shadows — and in the hearts and minds of Ukrainians, as has the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, which was similarly merged.

Both churches have become symbols of Ukrainian identity and national pride. The Orthodox, meanwhile, whether Russian or Ukrainian, have no great love for "uniate" churches like the Ukrainian Catholic Church, which they have long regarded as a tool employed by Rome to subvert their own followers.

Given these complexities, the Vatican has to proceed cautiously on two fronts. It has to mend its fences with the Russian Orthodox leadership and also woo the Soviet authorities. Its first task will be to persuade Mr Gorbachev that it has no political motives and seeks religious freedom as a desirable end in itself. Its second is to persuade him that the best way to neutralize the forces of fragmentation which rally around the banner of religious allegiance would be to end the repressive character of Soviet rule.

constraints, and which does not require vacant possession to be given.

We have made a serious bid which, in the best interests of Londoners, merits serious consideration. It is uncertain whether any of the other proposals will be able to proceed. While the uncertainty persists, we cannot take

Road and rail

From the Co-Chairman of Eurotunnel
Sir, Lord Nelson of Stafford wrote (June 13) to refer to innovation in surface transport and to support a CBI call in your paper for a stronger response to the Channel tunnel. He went on to say that "efficient interchange between modes is crucial".

The title you gave to his letter, "Growing need to invest in roads", reflects a common misapprehension. We must cease to assume that the answer to every traffic problem is the construction of a motorway or a bypass.

the residuary body's rejection of our bid as final.
Yours faithfully,
HUGH DYKES,
GRAHAM OF EDMONTON,
SEAR,
HARLEY SHERLOCK (trustees),
The London Charitable Trust,
Southbank House,
Black Prince Road,
Albert Embankment, SE1.

We must learn once again to assume that fast trains are a policy alternative to road and air congestion. We must connect our often excellent rail facilities north and west of the Thames to the tunnel, and through it to the superb European rail system now going into place.

Only an integrated road and rail plan for south-east England makes sense.

Yours faithfully,
ALASTAIR MORTON,
Co-Chairman, Eurotunnel,
The Channel Tunnel Group Ltd.,
Portland House,
Slag Place, SW1.
June 15.

Rising violence in field of sport

From Chief Superintendent J. R. Campbell

Sir, Further publicity is being given to the disorderly behaviour of English football fans, which is generally attributed to excessive drinking. Your leader on June 14 referred to the report of the working party chaired by Mr Brian Hayes, the Chief Constable of Surrey, into serious public disorder in the provinces, which also concludes that the problem is mainly caused by young people the worse for drink. The relationship between excessive consumption of alcohol and trouble at both sporting events and on the streets seems to have received further confirmation.

Football no longer has a monopoly of trouble at sporting events and similar problems are occurring at both cricket matches and race meetings.

The Saturday race meeting at York in June 1985, caused particular problems when coach loads of drunken racers descended on the centre of York after racing, with the now predictable consequences of disorder and violence. At each Saturday meeting since, in liaison with the licensing magistrates and Licensed Victuallers' Association, all public houses, clubs and off-licences have been closed between 3 pm and 7 pm and coaches have been discouraged from entering the city. These arrangements have been successful in that there have been no further instances of major disorder in the city since the "voluntary" closures started.

The new licensing Bill will become law shortly and normal licensing hours will be from 11 am to 11 pm. There is a provision in clause 3 of the Bill for restriction orders which allow the police and other specified groups to apply to the magistrates for an order to restrict opening to avoid or reduce disturbance or annoyance, or the occurrence of disorderly conduct on or in the vicinity of the premises.

Unfortunately, these orders, which do not apply to off-licences, can only be made between 2.30 pm and 5.30 pm, times which are too restrictive and will do nothing to assist the maintenance of public order in York should the patience of those who have taken part in the voluntary arrangements wear thin.

Many other places in the country would benefit if local magistrates had the power to make restriction orders at any time throughout licensing hours and the orders should also include off-licence premises.

Whilst some outbreaks of violent disorder are unpredictable, others can be foreseen and the availability of a power to remove a major cause of the problem would benefit the peace and tranquillity of the country.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. CAMPBELL,
North Yorkshire Police,
Chief Superintendent's Office,
Police Station,
Fulford Road, York.
June 15.

From Mr J. R. Anderson
Sir, Your leader today, "Out of Europe", is uncharacteristically wide of the mark. I do not

Coal dust and illness

From Dr John Thomas and Dr J. M. F. Temple
Sir, May we point out the errors in Mr Proctor's letter (June 14) concerning your report (June 6) of our practice's evidence to the recent inquiry here at Glynneath.

The practice selected us to give its evidence and it represents the considered views of all our partners. We gave our evidence in person and British Coal's able advocate did his best during cross-examination to expose faults in it. Despite several days' preview of the proof of our evidence, which

Skulduggery

From Dr A. Clayton
Sir, May I add a postscript to Mr R. Denvir's letter (June 13) on the subject of the skull of "Sultan" Mikawa. Despite article 246 of the Treaty of Versailles the skull was not returned by the Germans.

After much research it was found in a Bremen museum by the Governor of Tanganyika, Sir Edward Twining, an alumnus of this academy. Sir Edward arranged for its return and before an enormous gathering of Wabeche people presented it to Chief Adam Sapi on June 19, 1954.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY CLAYTON,
The Royal Military Academy
Sandhurst,
Camberley, Surrey.
June 14.

From Mr John Gray
Sir, Skulls are powerful magic — according to your columns (June 13) one may even have started the First World War. So before Robert Fisk's story (June 14) about the British Ambassador and Lady Hester Stanhope's skull joins Yorick and the rest in cranial mythology, let me say that no one offered me the lady's remains while I was in Lebanon.

If they had, I would have arranged decent burial. No point in antagonising the prophetic's ghost — even if it spoils a good story.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN GRAY
(HM Ambassador to Lebanon, 1985-88),
The Athenaeum, SW1.
June 15.

condone the hooliganism that has taken place, but it has to be said that it has been grossly exaggerated by some sections of the media.

As is increasingly apparent, the disease has little to do with soccer and everything to do with the Government's failure to deal with drunken, violent behaviour in general. It is suggested that soccer is responsible for the upsurge in attacks on the police in middle-class urban and rural areas or for the need to send a Foreign Office minister to Benidorm to deal with the problem of hooligan British tourists?

The key to the problem in Europe is the urgent need to prevent these people from travelling abroad to the annoyance of our neighbours.

My own club, Manchester United, refused to sell tickets for games on the Continent long before Heysel and actively discouraged supporters from travelling. They have complied with all Government requirements in relation to ground safety and crowd segregation and have instituted a membership scheme, now 40,000 strong, with a £5 annual fee, identity cards for the standing sections, season-ticket books for the seating, and a requirement that continued good behaviour, both at home and away, is an essential element of continued membership.

Further, they anticipated the Sport Minister's plea this week for involvement in local community affairs two years ago when a joint venture for Sport in the Community was set up in partnership with Salford City Council with a full-time club nominee.

There is close collaboration with the Greater Manchester police and incidents both inside and in the vicinity of the ground have been virtually eliminated. At a recent challenge match against A. C. Milan there were 37,000 spectators, including many Italians... and no arrests!

What more, please, do you suggest the club might do?

Yours sincerely,
J. R. ANDERSON,
4 Vardon Drive,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire.
June 14.

From the Reverend Martin P. Short

Sir, If football had a national identity scheme cross-referenced with passport numbers the Government could then consider legislation to ensure that football supporters travelling abroad not only possessed valid tickets for the game, but also a certificate of insurance against any third-party claims that might be made against them.

In this way the insurance market would effectively restrict travelling supporters to those old enough and mature enough to have affordable premiums.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN P. SHORT,
1056 Bolton Road,
Bradford,
West Yorkshire.
June 15.

we had given BC at their request, he was not able to find any.

In contrast we had scarcely two hours to consider rebuttal evidence from Dr Huw Davies, British Coal's area medical officer, much of which he then withdrew under cross-examination.

In particular Dr Davies withdrew the allegation that the epidemiology of our study was unsound. He agreed that the facts contained in our evidence at Easter time were capable of sustaining the concerns expressed one year ago at an earlier enquiry. This is our answer to the criticisms voiced by the West Glamorgan medical officer quoted by Mr Proctor.

Dr Davies also stated that British Coal never had undertaken, nor did it intend to undertake, any studies to refute our case.

If our fears are justified it merely means that dirty industrial practices can no longer be tolerated, which all forward-looking industries must surely accept as no bad thing.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN THOMAS,
MARK TEMPLE,
Boddleby,
Glynneath,
West Glamorgan.
June 14.

Resignation timing

From Sir Kenneth Lewis
Sir, Strange, is it not that a resignation in the middle of the night should appear exceptional to so many people in the Labour Party ("Labour defence chief resigns", later editions, June 14).

George Brown, who became Lord George-Brown of happy memory, himself resigned in the middle of the night, when we were on an all-night sitting at Westminster.

George Brown was then Foreign Secretary. And it was on a similar issue, that he was not being consulted by his leader, the Prime Minister, Harold Wilson, that he resigned.

Yours sincerely,
KENNETH LEWIS,
96 Green Lane,
Northwood,
Middlesex,
June 15.

Finding home for Thyssen pictures

From the Chairman of the Royal Fine Art Commission

Sir, I read with great interest your story earlier this week (June 13) on the future of the Thyssen collection. It contained a reference to myself which could be misinterpreted, namely that tentative approaches about Britain's acquisition of the collection "through, one understands, Lord St John of Fawsley, led (Baron Thyssen) to believe this country was not interested". May I make the positive plain.

I have for a considerable time been interested in the possibilities of Britain acquiring the Thyssen collection. I was delighted, therefore, when an approach was made to me by a resident in Switzerland suggesting that action should be taken officially by the Government to secure the collection.

I at once took up the matter with a high-ranking Government minister and certain other persons urging that an opportunity had arisen which should not be missed. The ministerial response was constructive and encouraging, but of course the matter had to remain highly confidential.

Now, owing to your "scoop", the matter has become public knowledge. I am delighted that the Prime Minister, as one would expect of her, has acted so resolutely and imaginatively in this matter.

As the issue has not been finally resolved I do not wish to make further comment. The point of my letter is to make it clear exactly what role I have played. When matters have reached such a delicate stage I do not believe it is right that any further statement should come from members of the Government and I recently withdrew a question on the matter tabled in the House of Lords. A statement from a private individual such as myself is, of course, a different matter.

Yours faithfully,
ST JOHN OF FAWSLEY,
Chairman,
The Royal Fine Art Commission,
7 St James's Square, SW1.
June 16.

From Mr Gavin Littaur

Sir, The Prince of Wales has done this country a considerable service

University league

From the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Keele
Sir, The league table of the country's universities which you published on May 31 was based on information compiled by the University Grants Committee as long ago as 1985. At the University of Keele more than 20 per cent of the academic staff, including 20 professors, have been appointed since 1985. Research income has increased since then at a rate well above the national average. The UGC itself has authorised the transfer of staff to Keele during the same period and non-UGC funding has been won, against competition from other universities, for the creation of new posts in a variety of fields.

Keele is attracting record numbers of applicants — even though the increase in the total pool of 18-year-olds is levelling off nationally. This year has seen a 20 per cent increase overall, with numbers doubling in certain disciplines which have recorded falls everywhere else.

Those who have reason to keep themselves properly informed about specific institutions, and about the appropriateness of degree courses to the world of work, will no doubt continue to vote with their feet.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN FENDER,
Vice-Chancellor,
University of Keele,
Keele, Staffordshire.

Choir losses

From Mr David L. Williams
Sir, Mrs Roche (June 13) is correct that the decline in choral singing began some 60 years ago.

In 1934 the Welsh Department of the Board of Education expressed itself "concerned by the decline in the ability to read music" and discovered "that many teachers were not only not qualified in music, but not interested in it." This, of course, has exacerbated the problem in successive generations.

The Music Committee of the Welsh Arts Council has recently been considering how to reverse this trend in the "Land of Song" after it had received a report confirming that the decline is continuing.

We hope that the revised examination syllabus, with its emphasis on aural and oral work, will go some way to remedying the situation. However, the major requirement is for enough time within the curriculum for the teaching of choral skills.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID L. WILLIAMS
(Chairman, Music Committee, Welsh Arts Council),
Rose Revived, Llantrithyd,
Cowbridge, Glamorgan.

From Mr Frederic Goodwin
Sir, I applaud Mr Higginbotham (June 11), whose school maintains a choral tradition involving boy trebles. We have a similar tradition, but the extent of the threat to it can be seen from the fact that when our boys arrive at the age of 11, usually only about 50 per cent can sing in tune. We rely for leadership on those who have already "found their voices" in church choirs, and if these are to fade away the future looks bleak.

The disappearance of singing from schools reflects its connec-

by adding the strength of his voice to the chorus of art-lovers who dearly wish to welcome Baron Thyssen-Bornemisza's superlative art collection to a permanent home in Britain.

If his recent intervention, following the Prime Minister's own initiative, proves to be successful, will the Prince be allowed to have a vital say in the architecture of the proposed purpose-built galleries, which would surely benefit from his tasteful and sensitive approach?

Yours faithfully,
GAVIN LITTAUR,
24 Stormont Road,
Highgate, N6.
June 16.

From Mr John L. Howard
Sir, Having seen and enjoyed the incomparable exhibition at the Royal Academy rooms, it seems churlish to raise questions about the Baron's very generous proposal to consider Great Britain as the future home for his great collection.

A nagging thought occurs to me on reading (report, June 14) of the large sum of money in the contingency fund which the Government may use to house the collection. Would it not be better to use this money to provide homes for the homeless?

There is an awful lot of art about.

Perhaps the contingency fund cannot be applied to such a purpose.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN L. HOWARD,
5a Christchurch Road,
Winchester, Hampshire.
June 15.

From Dr P. W. M. Copeman

Sir, As a nation, we do not say "thank you" nicely. You suggest (June 13) that this Kingdom has dragged its feet over Baron Thyssen's unparalleled generosity to make his picture collection available for the nation's enrichment.

Cleopatra's Needle, donated to us by Mohammed Ali, with his offer to help transport it, wallowed in the Egyptian sand for 60 years while we argued about it in deep ingratitude.

Yours sincerely,
P. W. M. COPEMAN,
52 Sloane Street, SW1.

From Dr Anthony Winterbourne

Sir, In the "Good University Guide" (Spectrum, June 15) dealing with polytechnics, the point was made that as part of their effort to match status with universities the former were now choosing to call their heads of departments "professors".

This is true, but Birmingham Polytechnic have gone a stage further. They have recently invited members of staff to apply to have that title conferred — on themselves — if they can meet most of a list of criteria specified by the polytechnic.

Since only two of those criteria have to do with publication and research, and others include items of splendid facility such as "consultancy", and since in addition there would appear to be no very precise weighing of such criteria, I cannot help but suspect that the title, which is admittedly one which carries no additional salary, operates as some equivalent of a long-service and good conduct medal.

I cannot think that the award of such titles will assist polytechnics in their desire to be thought equal to universities, which still, so far as I know, regard academic distinction as the primary value attaching to the award of a chair.

Yours sincerely,
ANTHONY WINTERBOURNE
(Senior lecturer in philosophy, Birmingham Polytechnic),
Prebendal House, Church Lane,
Lyddington, Rutland,
Leicestershire.

with the old-fashioned approach in which Western high art music is taught to children as a received culture, an approach now condemned by the music-education establishment as elitist and rejected by modern teachers because it requires concentration from pupils rather than dispensing instant rewards.

In music education the progressive ideas of the 1960s and 70s are now reaching fruition, and are enshrined in the GCSE syllabuses. For many children they have revitalised a subject often seen as "irrelevant", but the price we pay is that pop music is now given equal status with the greatest masterpieces of the past, which become less well known.

Is there any hope that Mr Baker might require schools to teach all young pupils to sing in tune and to introduce children to some of the great music in our heritage? If not, I fear that Mrs Thatcher's return to Victorian values may also be a return to *Das Land ohne Musik*.

Yours faithfully,
FREDERIC GOODWIN,
Director of Music,
The John Lyon School,
Middle Road, Harrow, Middlesex.

Work experience

From Dr I. D. Watson

Sir, As a direct result of Government policy my daughter became unemployed; she lost her job as milk monitor when free milk to schools ended, at the age of five years, 153 days. Is she the youngest of the many redundancies caused by Government policy?

Fortunately she has now retrained as a flowerwaterer, proving that a second career is possible.

Yours faithfully,
IAN D. WATSON,
Institute of Biochemistry,
Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, G4 0SF.

Sale of County Hall

From Mr Hugh Dykes, MP for Harrow East (Conservative) and others

Sir, The London Residuary Body has, without explanation, excluded the London Charitable Trust's bid for County Hall from the short-list of proposals it is prepared to entertain. We, the trust, are a non-profit-making, non-partisan body established for the benefit of the people of London. We intend to preserve County Hall for the Londoners for whom it was built, as a central and appropriate location for the multiplicity of London-wide local government functions which are essential to the integration and co-ordination of service to Londoners.

All the proposals which the residuary body is pursuing appear to be conditional on planning consent for hotel or general office use. We find it puzzling, in purely commercial terms, that the residuary body is not willing to entertain further the only bid which can proceed within present planning

June 18-24, 1988

SATURDAY

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO LEISURE
ENTERTAINMENT AND THE ARTS

CATCHERS ON THE WYE

NICK RODGERS

The poacher is
no longer the
plucky fellow of
folk song but
a merciless
big-time crook.
Brian James
lurked with his
beleaguered
counterpart, the
river bailiff



There were many nights like this, even when the men from the SAS were helping to keep watch on the Wye, and thus no obvious note of disappointment in Jack Ingram's voice when he led his "patrol" out of the bushes, where they had hidden up in the rain until 3.30am, to report: "Nothing. Not a glimmer all night. But they'll have been at it somewhere else for sure."

Ingram and the other bailiffs padded damply off to sleep, stinging the truncheons, the handcuffs, the high-power search torches and night-sights into vans. "This weather, the water high and the fish moving, they'll have had a few. No doubt of that. We'll try somewhere else tonight. Maybe pick the right spot."

Picking the right spot is not easy when there are only 10 of you, maximum, and you have 156 miles of river and hundreds of salmon pools in remote country to cover. It is harder when you know that there are possibly 10 times as many of them; enough manpower, anyway, to have scouts at your depot to spot your khaki jeep and use their own radio network to warn of the direction your raid is heading.

It was frustration with the inequality of this struggle that last year persuaded Wye fishery owners to find £15,000 to pay a security company to use its former SAS men to lay up a few nights and nab a few poachers. "They had nothing to teach us. We put them in the £1 seats ... I mean, gave them the most likely places on the most likely nights. So, sure, they caught a couple," Ingram said. "But what about the rest of the river, the rest of the time?"

The owners felt that husky ex-soldiers might deter more than the Welsh Water Board's own bailiffs, recruited, until now at any rate, for their knowledge of the ways of the river rather than their



Wide game: bailiffs set out as dusk falls to ambush the salmon gangs. But they are pitifully few and their patch, 156 miles of river, is vast. Saving the Wye from its plunderers is a hit and miss affair

qualities in a fight. The experiment, in any case, was too costly to continue now that Welsh local authorities have decided that taking £500,000 in rates from fisheries puts them under no obligation to pay to protect the resource.

The salmon is resilient and stocks of juvenile fish remain. Yet this three-river district (Wye, Usk and Severn), which used to provide 40 per cent of British salmon caught south of Scotland, is being threatened in a way that recalls a last-century disaster when a noble landowner brought in a team of Scottish net-fishermen and plundered the river fishless. The Wye had to be restocked with salmon from the Rhine.

Dr Graham Harris, Welsh Water's conservancy expert, said: "The whole fish ecology is again in jeopardy. On the Wye rod-caught catches have declined in six years from 6,500 to less than 3,000. The last two years have been the lowest this century. On the Usk, they used to take up to 1,400. Last year was 327."

One problem is that when you say "poacher", people smile ... at memories of schoolboy songs about "moonlight nights" and loveable rascals outwitting the squire's bullies. There is not much laughter on the subject from Jack Ingram and his mates. Centuries ago a local duke lost seven bailiffs murdered in a season: such days are not with us again, but recent thuggery revives the race-memory.

All bailiffs have had children threatened at school, wives abused on the telephone. All have stories of car tyres slashed or, worse, shaved to a dangerous thinness. Or have patrolled in boats where piano-wire has been strung head-height across the river, or when concrete blocks have been dropped at night off bridges. There is no comfort on the Wye that when shots were fired out of the dark at bailiffs, this incident took place further west, outside their patch. The mobility of poaching gangs down from Midland towns, even Scotland, or up from industrial South Wales, is accepted.

"This is no longer a bit of minor country mischief, but organized crime," said one fishery owner who, because of threats and vandalism on his property, asked not to be

named. "They come with order books from the cities. They are set up with a delivery system, long-distance lorry drivers paid £50 to get fish to London. They do deals with shady car dealers to have a different car each time. And we believe the same gangs go for the deer with crossbows, rustle our sheep. What can a few old boys — the bailiffs — do about that?"

The police, though involved in the occasional swoop, are said to play down the problem, preferring the toughs to be out at night poaching than at their other trade of burglary. Broken-into homes embarrassingly swell crime lists, but nobody reports stolen fish.

"I put a lot of it on the Bench," said Ray Dobbin, one of the men crouched in the bushes with Ingram. "You lose night after night like this, and when you see what they fine the bloke you catch, you wonder why you waste your time."

"They should stand with us some mornings," added Mike Morgan. "See the 40 and 50 fish we've taken from one bloke, his new dinghy, his four and five £100 gill nets. He'll make £1,000 for a night's work — yet the fine when we get him is about 80 quid."

Cliff Lloyd, the head bailiff on the Wye, remembers it being different when he began 21 years ago. "We shouldn't use the word 'poacher' for this lot. Poaching was what we had then, a bloke going out with a torch and a gill to take one for

the pot. These are thieves. And violent. Used to be a great life. I can't send a bailiff out alone these nights. Need to be a team. They've pulled our men out of a lorry, beaten 'em up. I know a lot by sight. Never done a day's work in their lives. Now they are making it rich."

"There's no romance in what they do: ruining the river — there's nothing like the fish there was. And they are hard to beat. We dare not use our radios now: they have the scanning gear to monitor all our frequencies. We have night-sights. But so do they."

Paul Hilder, the Area Fish and Conservation officer for the Wye, puts the haul of stolen fish at "at least 10,000". At 10lb a fish and £2 a pound that is a haul of £200,000. The fishery owners' secretary, Baron van Molyke, says the loss is at least double that. "Half a million is the very least these things are making. We have 100 members; their gillies know the waters and they say we are catching half the fish of the Seventies."

There are several ways to steal salmon. The Wye suffers from them all. Where the river rises in the hills above Rhayader, fish are taken by men with torches and homemade spears, and no one much minds. In the long middle stretches of the river, from Builth Wells down to Chepstow, the loss is huge to thieves who stretch small-mesh nets from bank to bank. Hilder's men grapple out perhaps 130 nets a year, and catch a handful of poachers who, he says, are getting younger, tougher and more daring.

And in the Severn estuary, the area conservation officer, Guy Mawle, estimates that up to 40 boats set out from the mass of jetties and slipways amid the sprawl of scrapyards and desolate factories at Newport and Cardiff. Ostensibly they are after sea fish. "That's their legal cover. There are not enough cod and muller to justify four boats, let alone 40. What they really fish are salmon. By the sackload."

Even with his fast patrol boats, catching them is difficult. The poached fish are simply dumped over the side. "It's a very unfunny game of hide-and-seek."

"One bailiff is off work for life after being hit with an oar. When we board them we have to have enough men to search and watch each other's back. They make a point of always standing there holding a knife ... no threats. Just intimidation."

Mawle, too, recognizes many of the enemy. "One ringleader is on the dole. He drives a newish BMW 7 series. The Usk is in a diabolical state: just 327 fish last year from a river which in its great days gave up 4,000."

Although Cliff Lloyd's men will be hidden up along some Wye riverbank tonight, and Mawle's mini-navy will be making sorties into the estuary until dusk, they know they need help. They were given some comfort by the 1987 Salmon Act: now a man found at night with a car boot filled with nets up in the hills

can, for the first time, be legally obliged to furnish an explanation.

Discussions are proceeding on the precise ways in which the licensing of dealers, decreed by the Act, will be implemented next year: when that comes about fishmongers and hotel-owners will have to answer the accusation of possession of fish "under suspicious circumstances" unless they have receipts to legitimize the purchases.

And soon — although it will take a public inquiry and Welsh Office approval — the men from Welsh Water can apply for the passing of by-laws to forbid ALL net-fishing in the estuary, thus destroying

the legal cover of the Newport gangs.

But it may need a great deal more than that if patrols of men like Jack Ingram can go back to their other daylight tasks of keeping the water disease-free and clean of rubbish: and if we are not to leave our children the best sporting water in England and Wales as a "fish-dead ditch".

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NETTING A POACHER



Many of the salmon stolen in the valley of the Wye are eaten within a few dozen miles, believes Paul Hilder, the area fisheries officer. "Hotels, restaurants, even families with a taste for fish have become accustomed to not asking too many questions: a 'one little fish, what harm can that do?' sort of attitude."

Pestalties under the new Salmon Act may deter this cavalier attitude. But the larger-scale poaching operation, with fish in wholesale quantities sent on motorways towards the Midlands and London, will only be beaten in his view by the introduction of "tagging". This system has been working with success in some Canadian states, has been taken up by the French, and is being examined in Ireland.

How this works is that legal fishermen, whether they catch by rod or net, are given

numbered plastic tags, rather like the identification labels used in hospitals. A register is kept, showing which numbers were allocated to whom, on which boat, on what day.

Heavy fines then await anyone, including fishmonger or chef, in possession of a salmon without its tag on tail and gill. "Yes there would need to be a raft of supplementary offences, such as tampering with tags. Yes, there could be a blackmarket in tags. Yes, there would be a duty on those who would have to identify the 1.5 million salmon they 'farm' each year."

"But, outside the Government, which turned down the idea, find as anyone — from the chap who pays £1,000 a year to fish one day a week, to the miner in his angling society who fishes for a fiver — who does not believe tagging must come," says Hilder.



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TRAVEL 2

Sticky African wicket

What it lacks in grandeur Gambia makes up for in character. David Blundell joined in the cricket and went to the wrestling

From the moment the rivers of Gambia cricket took the field, you could see they had problems. For one thing, they were not certain until the last minute that they could raise 11 players. Then there weren't enough pads to go round. And finally, there was a minor panic while somebody was sent to search for the ball.

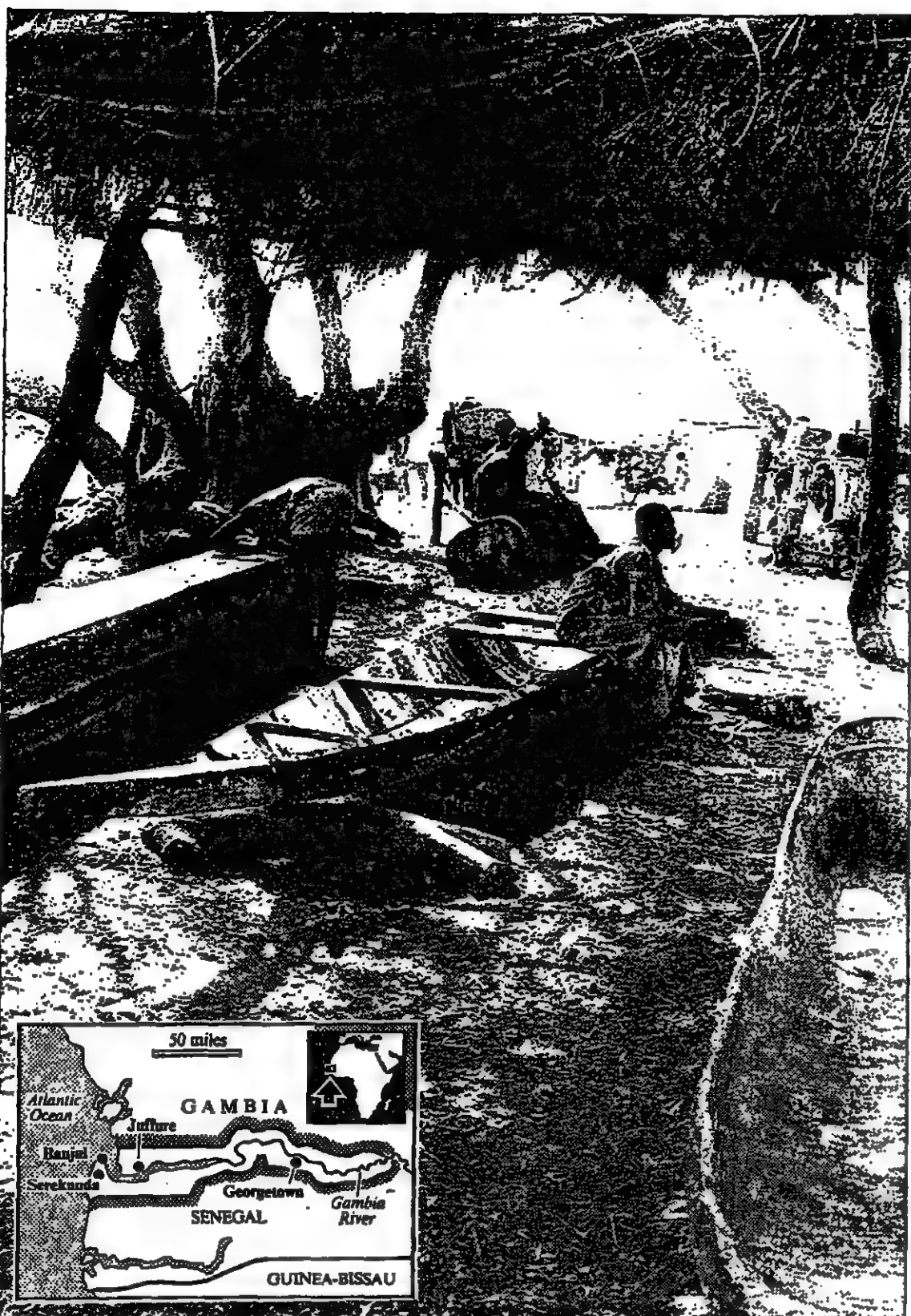
This was Independence Square, Banjul — one of the last homes of West African cricket. The wicket, at the centre of a rutted, dusty wasteland, was a patch of green plastic, and along the boundary railings were ranged the halt and the maimed with their begging cups.

The scene could almost have been a metaphor for the country. Razz-shackle, poor almost beyond the comprehension of a European, bravely holding to its own, quirky British traditions. I was not allowed to remain an observer. Halfway through the over, I was spotted by the wicket-keeper, who called the match to a halt and trotted over. "Good morning... are you an enthusiast for the game? We are delighted to see you here." This was Manly Elliott, cricket fanatic, gentleman and member of that most curious of West Africa's tribal groups, the descendants of freed slaves. They are known as the Akus and they speak among themselves a form of pidgin by now so far removed from the original English that it is almost incomprehensible.

During the next few days I got to know Elliott well, as he introduced me to his country (including a village naming celebration — like a christening, but a lot more fun).

Gambia, perhaps even more than Egypt, is dominated by the river that flows through its heart. At no point does its territory extend more than 30 miles from the banks, and historically this was the only means of transport. This is the country that was once the white man's grave, a steaming wilderness of malarial swamp thick with mosquito and tsetse fly. At the mouth of the river, on St Mary's Island, stands Banjul (formerly Bathurst). The capital today might have lost its reputation as a fever trap, but it is still essential to take precautions.

The visitor is faced with a choice: to stay in the sanitized Africa of the beach hotels, perhaps taking an



Messing about in boats: the river that flows through Gambia's heart still provides a major means of transport

escorted trip to Juffure, heavily marketed as the "home" village of Alex Haley of Roots fame; or to savour the sights (and smells) of the country in the raw. The second choice involves no more than walking beyond the hotel gate. Take a "bush taxi" (usually a decrepit van) charging no more than four dalasis — about 40p — and visit the country's largest town, Serekunda. Within five minutes you will be surrounded by children, some

pleading to be your guide for the day, others thrusting notes into your pocket begging you to send money, books, a pen to help with their education.

Gambian cricket might be in trouble, but the national sport of wrestling, which is centred on Serekunda, flourishes. A day at the arena (a roped-off area of sand about half the size of a football pitch) should be on the itinerary of every visitor. Contests are or-

ganized along tribal lines and last through the afternoon, with whites being grouped together on benches out of harm's way — the crowd can become wildly partisan.

Before each bout the contestants are announced by drumming and whistle blowing as a ragged band of dancing supporters lead their man around the arena. The manner in which opponents are chosen remains, at least to me, a mystery. A wrestler can, apparently, challenge

TRAVEL NOTES

Select Holidays (0992 554144) have seven, 14 and 21-day holidays to Gambia throughout the year. Summer prices (April to the end of October) start at £311 for one week bed and breakfast at a choice of beach hotels close to Banjul. This year's winter prices are still not decided, but will be about the same. Visits to wrestling, bird watching etc. can all be organized from your hotel. Summer flights are with British Airways from Gatwick. A yellow fever vaccination is required for entry to Gambia and it is unsafe to miss even a day's dose of anti-malaria tablets.

any other fighter of approximately the same weight. This leads to much strutting, fist waving, swaggering and "calling out", before each man finally grasps the other by the waistband and tries to throw him on his back. Punching, spitting, kicking and throwing sand in the eyes are permitted. It might lack the sham gymnastics of ITV on a Saturday afternoon, but there is no choreography here. These athletes are fighting in earnest and tribal honour is at stake.

On my third day (one on the beach, one nursing the burns) I joined a creek trip to see Gambia's astonishing bird life. There are estimated to be 400 varieties along the river, we counted 40 from the dugout in which we paddled through the dawn.

In the high branches of a mahogany tree was a brooding osprey, possibly a winter visitor from our own islands.

Tiny, gem-like kingfishers flashed among the mangrove roots, almost near enough to touch. Grey-blue Goliath herons stood stiff and silent on the banks. A monitor lizard, heavy and sluggish, woke blinking in the morning chill. We breakfasted in a thatched boathouse on oysters and tropical fruits, and walked back to the bus through the vegetable gardens of the villagers. High above us men were tapping palms for the sap from which they brew "jungle juice". Ninety per cent of the people are Muslim, but a relaxed view seems to be taken of alcohol consumption.

Legend has it that the last elephant in Gambia perished early this century after stumbling over a cliff, and the rest of the country's big game has mostly vanished too. A few lions remain in a wildlife sanctuary — brought over as refugees from a British safari park. Patas and green vervet monkeys are still common up-country, and I had the unforgettable experience of piloting a small boat through a family of snorting hippos.

This is not the Africa of wide skies, great plains and migrating herds — but what it lacks in grandeur is compensated for by the guaranteed winter sun and the character of the people. Where else would the scorer write in his book: "Visitor stopped play?"

Easier visas

TRAVEL NEWS

With the number of British travellers to Australia running 30 per cent ahead of last year, improvements are being made to the unpopular visa system. Visitor visas are now being issued for the life of the passport, and a same-day visa service is now available at Australian High Commission offices in London, Manchester, Edinburgh or Dublin. Completed application forms, along with passport and photograph, can be deposited between 9am and 1pm and the visa can be picked up later the same afternoon. Information: 01-836 3500.

Yacht safari

Venezuela is an unusual new destination being promoted by London-based Atlantida Travel (01-340 2888). A 10-day trip, priced at £999, includes a stay at the Hilton in Caracas followed by six nights on a yacht safari through the Caribbean coral islands. The tour can be extended by two nights to visit the Canaima National Park in the Venezuelan jungle.

● The French Government Tourist Office has advised motorists to avoid travel on French roads on July 23, 29, 30 and 31, August 23 and September 2 and 3. In something of an understatement, it warns that "some congestion" must be expected on those dates.

Hotel bonanza

Discounts of up to 65 per cent are being offered at 33 hotels operated by the SAS International group, mostly in Scandinavia, between June 24 and August 14. The SAS Strand Hotel on the Stockholm waterfront is charging a

nightly rate of 400 Swedish kronor (about £37) during this period, while the SAS Royal in Copenhagen, opposite the Tivoli Gardens, is charging 525 Danish kroner (about £44).

The biggest reduction is at the SAS Palais Hotel in Vienna, a converted 18th-century palace, where the summer nightly rate will be only 500 Austrian schillings (about £23). The special rates can be booked only up to a week in advance (24 hours in Norway). Information: 01-734 4020.

● Discounts of up to £20 are offered by Intasun Skiscene (01-851 3321) for skiers booking next winter's holiday before September 2. Skiscene is also promising a full refund to anyone who, within 14 days of booking, finds the same holiday available from another operator at a lower price.

Favorita things

The Lugano Tourist Office is laying on special hotel packages this summer to tie in with a major exhibition of Soviet avant-garde masterpieces at the Villa Favorita, the private residence of Baron Thyssen, which also houses a permanent display of Old Masters.

The packages offer a choice of hotels in five price categories, with three nights' bed and breakfast accommodation, starting at 179 Swiss francs (about £69), or 222 francs (£85) for half-board. The prices include admission to both the Soviet exhibition — which is open daily except Mondays until October 2 — and to the Thyssen-Bornemisza collection. Information from the Tourist Office on 010 41 91 214664.

Philip Ray

Gatwick savers

A new fares initiative from British Airways Gatwick Division enables you to fly to Europe with scheduled airline reliability for less than the second-class train and ferry fare. This summer Maxi Saver fares apply only when you fly from Gatwick to selected destinations. Examples of return fares: Amsterdam, Brussels, Paris, all £55, Frankfurt £77, Geneva £87/£100, Copenhagen £127, Stockholm £171. All these special fares undercut the cheapest fares from Heathrow. Book 14 days ahead for flights departing on or before 4 July, thereafter book 28 days ahead. You must stay away at least one Sat-

urday night. But be sure of your plans. Bookings cannot be changed and unused tickets are non-refundable.

● British Airways is undercutting bucket shop fares on the New York run, provided you fly from Gatwick or Manchester. As long as you depart before June 30, BA is charging just £249 return for special excursion tickets to New York — that's less than most bucket shops for flights with lesser known airlines, and over £200 less than BA's regular Apex fare.

Alex McWhirter
Travel editor, Business Traveller magazine

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Gambian division of labour: while the women of Kobo Koto village gather to prepare food...



the men indulge in the national sport of wrestling — which permits throwing sand in the eyes

● So many books on Britain have appeared recently that our motorways must be jammed by travel writers heading home after researching them. Susan Hill, author of *The Spirit of the Cotswolds* (Michael Joseph, £14.95), would presumably have been at the A40. The name suggests the book is destined for the coffee tables of overseas natives, and Nick Meers's photographs are certainly easy enough. Hill spent a year researching in the Cotswolds, and every town seems to be mentioned, although she is singer on atmosphere than tgh tourist facts. Much of it occasionally purple prose dedicated to the elusive 'it' of the title, captured on a trip here, in a church there. St. if you are planning a pering holiday, this book

TRAVEL BOOKS

does tell you of some unusual, out-of-the-way spots.

● *The New Through Britain on Country Roads*, by Peter Brereton (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £10.95) is a sequel to *Through Britain on Country Roads*. The new gloveboxed volume should prove perfect for pottering-in-the-car holidays. It comprises 17 scenic routes, all starting and ending in a large town. Each route is divided into bite-size chunks of 30 miles or so, accompanied by a diagrammatic map and details of the towns and highlights in that segment. The descriptions are interesting and concise, with frequent asides about eccentric Victorian vic-

ars, interesting graves and pubs where the fire has been kept burning for 100 years.

● *Fifty Best River Walks of Britain*, by Christopher Somerville (published on Monday by Webb & Bower/Michael Joseph, £14.95), has one big attraction for those who feel ill at the prospect of exercise. As the author writes in his introduction: "Most river walking is level walking..." There are other attractions: wildlife, scenery, swimming and fishing. Each of the 50 walks, none more than a day's ramble, comes with just enough description to whet the appetite, enough history to give you a sense of cultural purpose, and enough detail to make you confident that you will reach the end. Each is accompanied by an Ordnance Survey map. But this hardback, which has many pleasant colour photographs, seems rather weighty for a day-pack. Perhaps it is intended for armchair walkers after all.

Jenny Tabakoff

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MORE CIVILIZED WAY TO TRAVEL

Accused of swindling, Luke Lightfoot had to abandon his work at Claydon House — leaving behind a marvel of rococo carving, Nigel Andrew reports

Luke Lightfoot's greatest talent was for designing and carving in wood — door cases, mirror surrounds, overmantels, cornices, even ceilings, all painted white and looking like the most exquisitely ornate plasterwork. The first room of the tour of Claydon — the North Hall, formerly the eating room — gives the full flavour of Lightfoot's unrestrained style. That virtuosic carving is everywhere, its miraculous delicacy matched only by its boldness of design.

This was an interior that horrified Robinson — "the ridicule of all who have seen or heard of it," he assured the earl ingratiously — but Verney, happily for us, left it in its full breath-taking splendour. It is only the first of some half-dozen interiors which thrillingly express all the restless abundance of rococo taste.

The climax comes when you step from the Gothic Room, with its extraordinary octagonal domes, into the Chinese Room. This is *chinoiserie* run riot, the 18th-century dream of far Cathay expressed on the grand scale as an enchanted forest of weeping foliage, fantastic trellises and tiny hanging bells — all, unbelievably, carved out of wood.

If this room alone had survived of Lightfoot's dazzling work, Claydon

would still be worth visiting. But there is much more — not least the memorials of another remarkable era in the house's history.

Sir Harry Verney's sister-in-law, the great Florence Nightingale, used to make prolonged visits here. Her bedroom is reconstructed as she knew it — and most un-Victorian it looks — and a museum room displays a fascinating range of memorabilia. These included such unexpected items as a shrunken, mahogany-coloured orange which she gave to a soldier in the Crimea and which he, eschewing vitamin C, reverently preserved for posterity.

Barely 50 yards from the house stands Middle Claydon church, and in its chancel a superb monument to Sir Edmund Verney, Charles I's standard bearer at Edgehill. Such was his devotion to his King that after the battle nothing was found of him except his right hand still firmly clutching the royal standard.

The second Earl, in the course of his grand redesign of Claydon, cleared the graveyard which then lay between the house and the church. No good would come of this sacrilege, muttered the villagers, and the bankrupt Earl, with two-thirds of his "mighty fabric" demolished, might with hindsight have agreed. But 200 years later this great creation, now in the care of the National Trust, is still astonishing and delighting a vastly larger public than even he would ever have dreamed possible.

Claydon House near Winslow, Bucks, is open Sat-Wed, 2-6pm, till the end of October. Admission £1 (Mon and Tues, £1.60), child £1.

OUTINGS

STRAWBERRY FAYRE:
Barnet Basil Hunt opens the faye, so called because in medieval times the gardens of Ely House, Holborn, were famous for their strawberries. Games, slideshows, stalls, a streetbar and other street entertainers, traditional jazz band. Licensed bar, teas and of course strawberries and cream. Proceeds to charity. Ely Place, Holborn, London EC2A. Today 12.30pm-5pm. Adult 50p, child 20p.

BRITAINIA ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE OPEN DAY: Annual opportunity to look over the college. Guided tours, helicopter and other displays, music by the Royal Military Band and many other attractions. Britainia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, Devon (08043 2141). Today 11.5pm-6.30pm. Adult £1, child 50p. Car plus passengers £23.

BIGGIN HILL AIR FAIR:
Famous annual international flying display of military and civilian aircraft plus specialist flying teams and static displays. Full refreshments and licensed bars.
Biggin Hill Airfield, Biggin Hill, Kent (0858 71111). Today, 10am-5pm. Adult £1.50, child 50p.

HARDEN MOSS SHEEPDOG TRIALS: Trials, sheep shearing and fell racing. Also on Sunday, a craft fair and band. Refreshments and licensed bar.
Harden Moss, Greenfield Road, Holmfirth, West Yorkshire. Today 10am-5pm, tomorrow 11am-6pm. Adult £1, child 50p.

SHUGBOURGH CRAFT AND COUNTRY SHOW: Many traditional crafts demonstrated and items for sale. Also at work — in period costume — is the blacksmith, miller, dairy and scullery maids. Threshing, shire horses and a re-enactment of a 19th-century Hiring Fair. Morris dancing and traditional refreshments.
Shugborough Park, Shugborough, Milford, near Stafford (0883 83138). Today, tomorrow 10am-5pm. Adult £3, child £1.50.

HAM VILLAGE FAYRE:
Stalls, slideshows, games, refreshments — in all aid of a number of charities.
Ham Common, Ham, Richmond, Surrey. Today 12 noon onwards. Free.

Judy Froshan

Transcends Enchumment & unravels d' stands

Claydon is the house thus fulsomely described in a verse addressed to its proud owner, the second Earl Verney. The following year colossal debts obliged him to sell the contents of the house, and within a decade the greater part of his work was demolished. It was the end of a quite extraordinary episode of acute building mania. But the wreck was by no means complete, and what remains includes a sequence of the most stunning rococo interiors to be seen anywhere.

From the outside, you would never guess the house holds such wonders. The remaining third of Verney's hugely ambitious western front is unimposing, and lacks even a proper front door. Originally it extended to a ballroom wing identical to the surviving block, and between the two a huge rotunda.

The second earl, carried away by the urge to compete with nearby Stowe, was thinking big and sparing no expense.

However, he did not enlist the services of a fashionable architect like Robert Adam. He employed a prickly, difficult, remarkably versatile minor genius called Luke Lightfoot, now remembered solely for his work at Claydon. Later Verney also took on Sir Thomas

that he gave up and became a victualer.

Luke Lightfoot's greatest talent was for designing and carving in wood — door cases, mirror surrounds, overmantels, cornices, even ceilings, all painted white and looking like the most exquisite ornate plasterwork. The first room of the tour of Claydon — the North Hall, formerly the eating room — gives the full flavour of Lightfoot's unrestrained style. That virtuosic carving is everywhere, its miraculous delicacy matched only by its boldness of design.

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SHOPPING

Lighting up the garden path

Spotlights on trees or stars in the rockery — Nicole Swengley tracks down a new source of imaginative outdoor lights

Imaginative patio and garden lighting is notoriously difficult to buy. But the new Garden Lighting Company, tucked away in Wandsworth, stocks a range of outdoor lighting well suited to London patios and roof terraces as well as larger country gardens and estates.

Director Chris Thornton explains: "The effects of lighting a garden or patio can be quite stunning. A small back garden benefits far more from the subtle use of five or six individual lights than from all-over flood lighting. It's the positioning which is the key to successful effects rather more than the lights themselves. Thoughtful lighting provides perspective as well as defining specific features like pergolas, statues or trees. I'm finding that people are becoming much more aware about designing and lighting their gardens, especially small areas which become, in effect, an extension of the house," he says.

The showroom stocks traditional wall-mounted lights — carriage lamps, lanterns and bulkhead units — and contemporary uplighters made of cast aluminium with sealed, waterproof tops, costing around £97 each.

Buried spotlights with sealed safety glass, tough enough to stand on, cost from £39; recessed brick lights for building into walls alongside steps or around barbecue areas sell for £46-£60; attractive domed mushroom downlighters for illuminating pathways cost £98. Less expensive are the PAR 38 spotlights, from £10.50, for highlighting trees, shrubs or other features; a 500 watt tungsten halogen spotlight for £20 will completely illuminate a 40ft tree.

The company is the sole distributor of a new collection of Nightscaping lights imported from the US. These low 12 voltage lights cost from £11.50, and unlike all the other lights on sale can be installed by owners rather than by professional electricians.

Since these low voltage, slimline lights do not generate

much heat, they can be safely and discreetly positioned alongside plants and shrubs, while similar tree-hung versions, with perforated casings, create a twinkling effect in branches overhead.

Anyone looking for particularly unusual effects might be attracted by Thornton's latest lighting device — fibre optics built into rocks, mossy banks or lawns to create a spattering of tiny, twinkling coloured stars.

Security is a practical reason for installing outdoors lighting: all the lights on display can be linked to time switches, photocells (activated by natural light for dusk-to-dawn use) or to an alarm, although Thornton warns that domestic or wild animals can easily set off these systems accidentally. Even so, an infra-red detector security lamp (£52) is a useful device which operates like a glorified master switch. It is activated by heat, triggering all the other outdoor lights as you drive — or walk — up the path to your front door.

The Garden Lighting Company is at 352 Old York Road (formerly part of York Road), London SW18 1SS (01-877 0144). Old York Road is not listed in the AZ gazetteer: it is west of Wandsworth Bridge roundabout, close to Wandsworth Town railway station.

Small selections of garden lighting are also stocked by London Lighting, 135 Fulham Road, London SW3 (01-589 3612) and John Cullen Lighting, 1 Woodfall Court, Smith Street, London SW3 (01-730 8585).



Showing the way: from left, Illuminator (£32), Footlighter (£28) and Navigator (£24), all from the Nightscaping range

NEWSLINES

comprises three ranges of ready-to-hang, hand-printed, pressed pieces of wallpaper in the shape of swags and bows, twists of rope, rosettes, tassels, fruit and flowers. Pieces can be ordered individually or in sets or borders. For more details and colour swatches, please contact Ornamenta on 01-584 3857.

Whether you drive a Porsche, Bugatti or vintage Morris Minor, Blades of Savile Row can customize a pure wool crew-neck sweater with your favourite auto. The sweaters come complete with personalized number plate if required, in a mix of hand and machine-knitted wool. Prices start at £125. Send a photograph of your motor with colour choice and chest measurements to

Blades of Savile Row, 8 Burlington Gardens, London W1 (01-734 8911).

Whichford Pottery is well known for its attractive hand-made terracotta pots which carry a 10-year frost-proof guarantee. Now they have a catalogue for direct ordering, with deliveries charged at a flat rate of £8.50 per order including insurance (except Scotland and Cornwall — £25 per order). New designs for this summer include garlanded flowerpots, edging tiles and an elephant-shaped planter, plus new sizes in traditional swag and acanthus pots. Catalogues cost £1 (refundable against purchases) from Jim Keeling Flowerpots, Whichford Pottery, Whichford, Shropshire CV30 5VQ (060 884 416).

N.S.

IN THE GARDEN

Scents and sensibility

Absolutely nothing in the world smells as good as a sweetbriar after an early summer shower, Francesca Greenoak says

CLARE ROBERTS



Fragrant social climber: Amy Robsart, one of the swift-growing sweetbriars

Scent is a powerful stimulant: I have seen cats go almost mad with cat mint, jumping in it, rolling, racing around the garden with ears back and eyes wild; and though my reaction is usually more moderate, I understand how they feel. The scents that thrill me are those with a particular sweet pungency, a rich spiciness which fills the air: resinous bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*) in fenland, the dizzy fragrance of the balsam poplars. Best of all are the sweetbriars, which combine a warm sweetness with a certain almost citrus tang. There is absolutely nothing in the world as good as a sweetbriar after an early summer shower, when the foliage is young and its scent strongest.

The common briar, *Rosa eglanteria*, is a fine thing and will grow quickly into a great bush or climb high into a hedge. The single pink flowers, rather like those of a dog rose, are slightly scented and bloom in midsummer. The hips remain well into the winter. If grown in a garden an annual clipping will encourage more young growth and scent, but pruning is not at all necessary.

The Old Testament of rose varieties, William Paul's *Rose Garden* of 1903, describes 20 sweetbriars, including one which Paul introduced himself, called Hebe's Lip or Reine Blanche. Paul thought this rose, of very ancient origin, was a cross between a damask and a sweetbriar. Much less rampant in growth than the species, it makes a bush of about 4ft.4in, with white flowers edged with red.

As soon as you start looking for sweetbriar varieties you meet Lord Penzance, the great name for these roses, responsible for at least 15 hybrids and named forms, discovered or bred by him at the end of the last century. One of the very nicest is named after him, its flowers an interesting fawn-buff colour flushed with pink. The bright small hips are very ornamental and, like most of the briars, it tolerates poor soil.

Years ago, an old reference to

double sweetbriars set me on a search for them which was unfulfilled until recently, when I discovered with delight that the modern bible of roses, Peter Beales's *Classic Roses*, also describes 20 sweetbriars. His list includes Mannings Bush, a scented, white double rose dating from about 1800, with dense fragrant foliage on a mature bush which grows to about 5ft.4ft. One could scarcely wish for more, but the *Scarlet Sweetbriar*, a very ancient kind, produces a generous number of rosy red double

flowers (although the foliage is not quite so strongly fragrant). There are also more single-flowered varieties, of which the best known is probably the brazen red *Meg Merilees*, and several semi-doubles, such as the purplish *Magnifica*. As a general rule the single-flowered kinds have more fragrant foliage than the doubles or semi-doubles.

Sweetbriars will grow almost anywhere, most of them tolerating shade, and can be trained up pillars, arches and pergolas as well as making

WEEKEND TIPS

- Continue to plant container-bought plants but make sure they have adequate water until their roots get established.
- Thin lettuces as they begin to fill out: give wider spacing to varieties which are cropped by pulling individual leaves.
- Thin out your plum crop (especially Victorias) to about one every three inches and apple fruitsets to about one every six inches.
- Stake lilies, delphiniums and sunflowers and any plants in a shady place that might lean over towards the sun.
- Make sure seed trays and boxes have been well watered and drained shortly before planting out young plants.

NEWSLINES

CAPEL 88: In Hertfordshire this weekend there will be a grand horticultural show held in the 30 acres of Capel Manor's gardens, showing exhibits from amateurs and professionals. There will be practical demonstrations and a gardeners' market. The event is sponsored by James Capel, the stockbrokers, and advice will be on hand on financial as well as gardening futures. Tickets £1.50, child 70p, at the gate or from Capel Manor Horticultural and Environmental Centre, Bullsmead Lane, Welham Cross, Hertfordshire (0992 763849) (just off M25: south at A10 interchange).

handsome open grown bushes. They can be propagated from cuttings, and even more simply by taking a suckering stem with a portion of root on it (this works well with many species of hybrid roses, so long as they are on their own roots and not budded or grafted).

A good range of sweetbriars is available from Peter Beales, London Road, Attleborough, Norfolk NR17 1AY, and David Austin, Bowling Green Lane, Altrich, Wolverhampton WV7 3HB.

COLLECTING

Can't see the wood for the tree?

MICK GOLDINGER

"I see you're making a little collection of trees," said the collector.

"Am I?" replied the owner. "I didn't know. You make me feel like that *Moliere* character who was gratified to learn he was speaking prose. What, exactly, is tree?"

"Small things made of wood — bowls, dishes, spoons, nutcrackers, snuff-boxes, mortars, measures — the list is endless, and so is the scope for collectors. Commonplace examples are still to be found at sensible prices, but fine specimens have become expensive. A square wooden plate, or trencher, salvaged from the wreck of the 18th-century ship *Invincible*, was sold by Christie's recently for over £1,000."

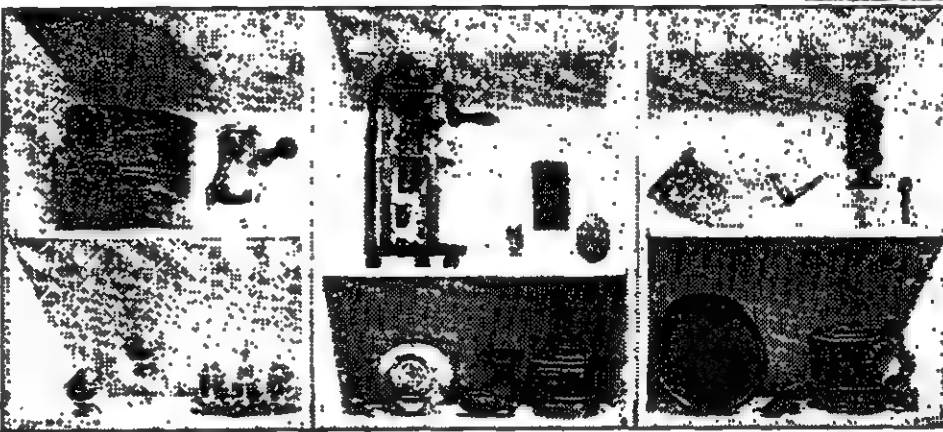
"I don't think any of my bits and bobs are worth much. They are just rather nice kitchen things that I've picked up at seaside places, passing the time while Hugo messes about in his boat. Perhaps if he were to capsize with some of this junk on board, it could be salvaged in a few years and sold for a bomb."

"I wouldn't recommend it. There's only one thing here of any particular merit — the love-spoon. Did you find that while browsing in a shop on the coast of Wales? Many of them were made by Welsh sailors."

"No, Hugo bought it at an antiques fair years ago, before we were married. The dealer told him some story to the effect that these things used to be made by love-sick farm lads to give to their girlfriends, in place of engagement rings. Being smitten himself — with me, actually — Hugo fell for it. I've no idea what he paid — too much, I expect."

"Probably not. It's a good one, worth at least £300 today."

"Really? And at the time, I was a bit miffed. I mean, a girl doesn't know quite what to make of it when a chap hands her the wooden spoon. Is there



Bits and bobs: a selection of treen and other ware from specialist dealers A. & E. Foster

any truth in all that soppy stuff?"

"Love-spoons were part of an old tradition of exchanging tokens, often based as much on good prospects as romantic love. The earliest Welsh examples date from the 1600s, but they were also made in the West Country and Scandinavia. Giving a spoon was only a way of making an offer, and accepting it didn't signify a betrothal. A pretty girl, or one with a decent dowry in the offing, might make a small collection of spoons given by different suitors before committing herself."

"Cheaper than buying them at antiques fairs. And did the chaps really make the things themselves?"

"Yes, until about 1860, when they began to be made commercially. Yours has the date 1843 scratched on that little pane of mirror glass, and looks like an authentic bit of DIY dedication, the whole thing carved out of one piece of wood — usually sycamore."

"But why a spoon? Anything to do with spooning? That's what the Victorians called necking, wasn't it?"

"Yes — on the principle that two spoons can fit well together. But there's much more to it than that. The spoon means 'I will feed you', the little knife and fork represent

the hoped-for children, one of each sex, attached by chains — the bonds of marriage and parenthood. The mirror, scratched with the girl's initials, is to protect her from witchcraft. The wheel at the centre means 'I will work — put my shoulder to the wheel'."

"And what about those little balls in the cage, that move up and down? Are they symbolic too, or should I ask?"

"I've heard it said that they represent passion, that can move freely within marriage, but cannot escape unless the bars that enclose it are broken."

Do you know how little it costs?

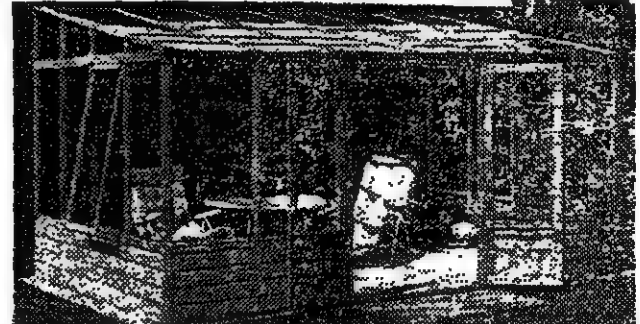
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NOVA conservatory. Prices range from £359 to £999

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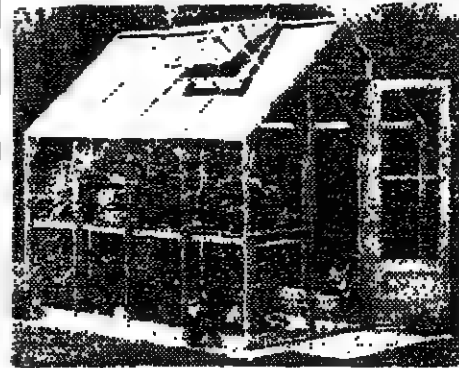
ASTRAL free-standing octagonal. Prices range from £399 to £1,499

Take advantage of last year's prices NOW! Readers wishing to take advantage of last year's prices which are still available should complete and return the coupon below without delay. This even applies to customers who would prefer to delay delivery until later in the year, providing that an order and 10% deposit is received before this offer ends.

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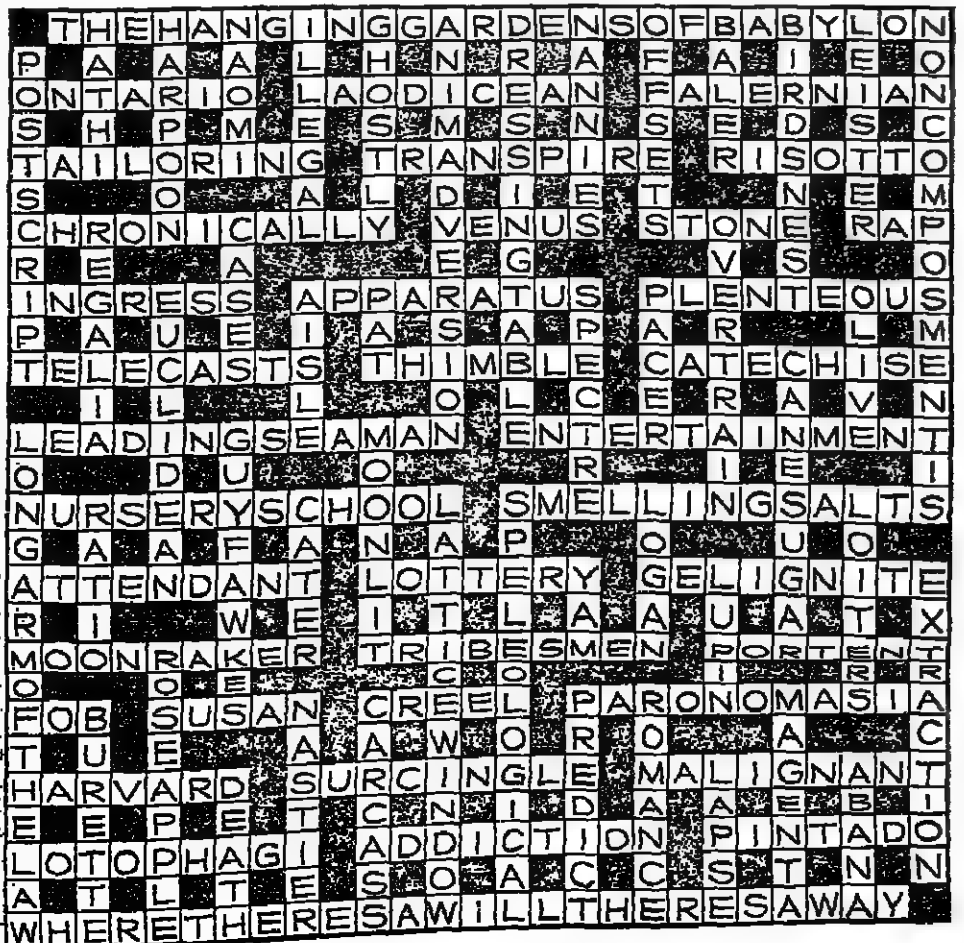
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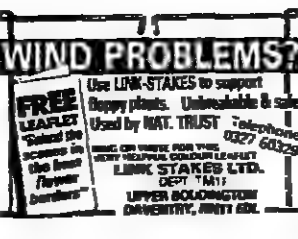
GALAXY traditional greenhouses. Prices range from £279 to £519

Jumbo crossword winners

Here is the solution to *The Times* Jumbo crossword competition published on Saturday May 28. The five winners who each receive a prize of £50 are: Mrs Sheila G.F. Wilson, Cunningham Watt Road, Stewarton, Ayrshire; B.A. Newman, Britten Crescent, Great Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex; D.C. Sherring, Rubens Way, St Ives, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire; Mrs Dorothy Moore, Mayfair Gardens, South Shields, Tyne and Wear; and C.V.G. Harries, Stoke Bishop, Bristol. Today's prize concise crossword is on Page 21.



FRUIT CAGES

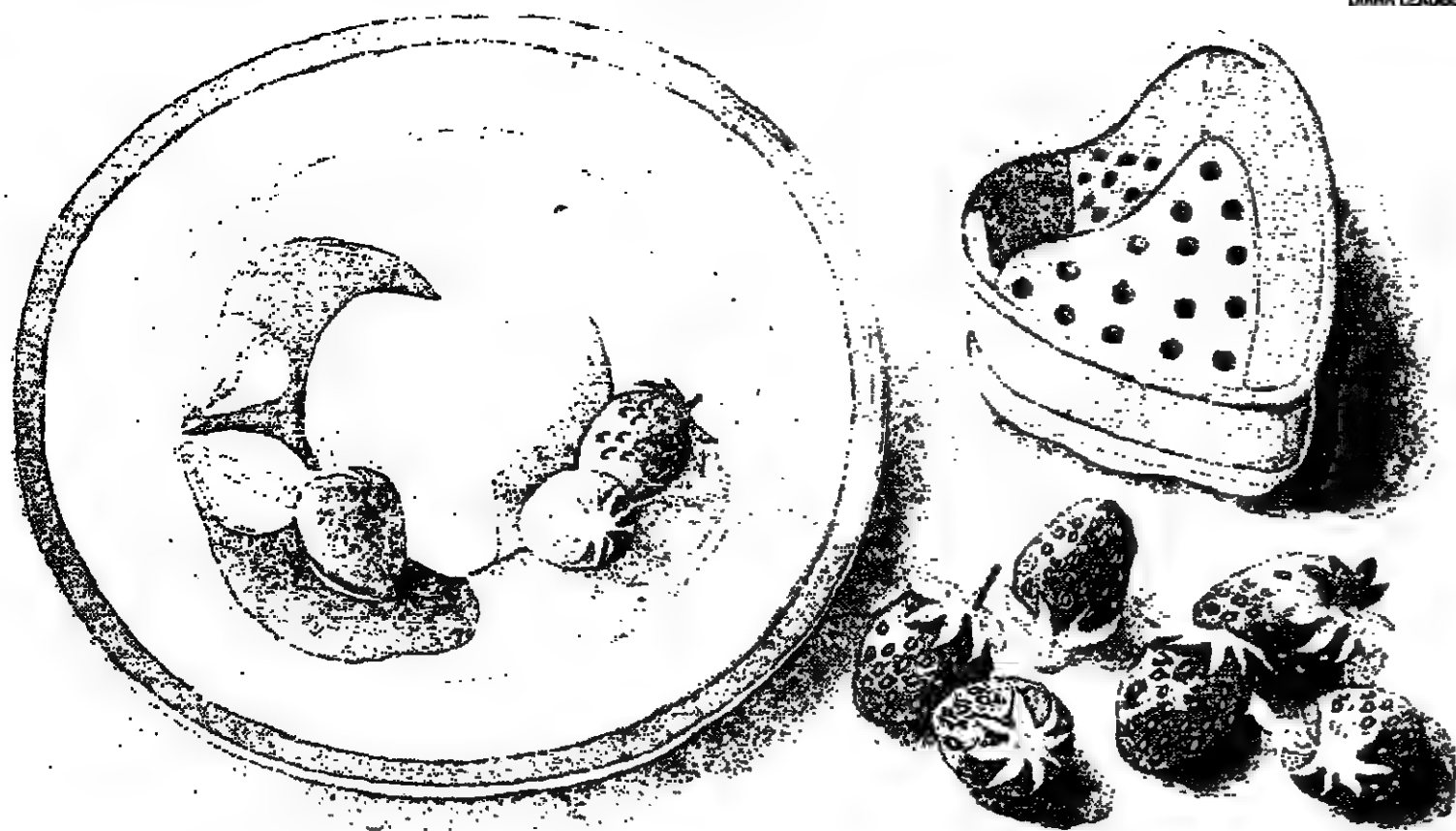


WIND PROBLEMS?

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THE TIMES COOK

DIANA LEADSBETTER



Sweet taste of rescue

Dinner parties can be 100 well planned, I discovered a few weeks ago. It was an important occasion, and we had it all worked out in the minutest detail.

I had worked out a version of summer pudding with tropical fruits filling a sponged-lined basin. Mangoes, pineapple, kiwi fruit, passion fruit and papaya all went into my shopping basket, but it did not feel quite right even as I was buying them. Tropical fruits are wonderful to brighten up our dark winter days, but it was a soft summer day, and there stacked up on the pavement were trays and trays of beautiful French strawberries shouting "buy me". I spent the afternoon obstinately making eight individual puddings for the next day.

Of course they were never going to work. Not only were they entirely unseasonal, I had miscalculated the balance of sponge to fruit and had made the casing too thick.

I was very lucky because I was able to go out and buy the strawberries, and had enough time to make my version of "coeur à la crème". It reminded me of the importance of leaving enough room for manoeuvre, to take account, for example, of the unexpected

When her suspicions about the tropical fruit puddings were borne out, Frances Bissell saved the dinner party with some quick seasonal thinking

edly early appearance of some seasonal speciality. Incidentally, a couple of readers wrote in about the Shaker Lemon Pie. Yes, it is very lemony and chewy — like many things. It is a matter of personal taste. I think it is delicious but Tom, my husband, wrote to those readers saying he hated it too.

Anyway, this is what I did with those lovely strawberries. You can decide how plain or rich you want the mousse to be by making it with cream cheese and double cream for extra richness, with sieved and blended cottage cheese and fromage frais for a low-fat version, with curd cheese and thick yoghurt for a medium version, or any combination of your choice. The consistency, however arrived at, should be that of thick cream or yoghurt. You need pierced moulds to hold the mixture.

Sweet cream cheese mousse with strawberries and vanilla sauce
(Serves 8)
1pt/570ml single cream
1 vanilla pod

2 to 3 tablespoons caster sugar
2 leaves gelatine
1lb/455g soft cheese mixture as described above
2 egg whites
½pt/140ml fruity red wine
1 cinnamon stick
¼ tsp freshly ground black pepper
2lb/0.90kg fresh strawberries

Put the cream in a saucepan with the vanilla pod and 1 tablespoon sugar. Bring to the boil and remove from the heat. Split open the vanilla pod, scrape the seeds into the cream and allow it to cool. Meanwhile, break up the gelatine and let it soften in the water in a small bowl. When it is soft, drain out half the water and place the bowl in a saucepan of water and heat until the gelatine has dissolved.

Mix the gelatine and a quarter of the vanilla cream, with the soft cheese mixture. Whisk the egg white and fold carefully into the mixture. Line eight small pierced moulds with damp muslin, place them on a tray and

spoon in the cheese mixture. Allow to drain and set in the refrigerator for a minimum of eight hours. Cover to stop the muslin from drying out.

Make a syrup with the red wine, the rest of the sugar, the cinnamon and black pepper. Allow it to cool. Make the softest but still sound strawberries into a purée. The larger firm ones should be sliced and marinated in the red wine syrup, and the small firm ones reserved to serve whole. To assemble the dish, turn out each mousse on to a large plate. Pour a little vanilla over one side of it. Spoon some strawberry coulis on the plate, and arrange some fresh strawberries around the mousse. It looks best on a large plain plate.

Here is another recipe which uses seasonal produce to good advantage. It was devised by Stephen Goodlad, the talented young chef at 90 Park Lane in London. It should be served as a separate course and makes an excellent starter. I particularly like the recipe because it suggests possible variations. Courgettes

could be used instead of artichokes, although you should adjust cooking time.

Artichoke and asparagus casserole in a butter and cider sauce
(Serves 8)

12 tiny or 4 medium artichokes
2lb/0.90kg green asparagus
3oz/85g unsalted butter
2oz/60g finely chopped shallots
2fl oz/60ml good dry white wine
½pt/140ml dry cider
½pt/140ml vegetable stock or water
6oz/170g diced tomato flesh
8 basil leaves torn into shreds
3 tbsp crème fraîche (optional)
sea salt
freshly ground black pepper
fresh chervil or parsley

Using medium artichokes, pare them right down to the base, and put each in a bowl of acidulated water. Tiny artichokes need only the outer leaves and the leaf tips removed. Quarter the small artichokes, slice the larger artichoke bottoms into four or five pieces or cut into wedges. Blanch in boiling water for five minutes. Remove and discard any woody stems from the asparagus, and break into 1½in/4cm pieces. Blanch the asparagus pieces for four to five minutes and refresh under cold running water. Reserve the tips for decoration. In a casserole melt 1oz/30g butter, and add the shallots and the artichoke pieces together with the white wine and cider. Bring to the boil and cook briskly for a few minutes. Then add the stock and continue cooking until the artichokes are still firm.

Remove the artichokes and boil the cooking liquor until reduced by half. Put the artichokes back in the casserole with the asparagus pieces and bring back to the boil. Add the tomato and basil, stir in the crème fraîche if using it, and season to taste. Warm the asparagus tips by pouring water over them. Divide the vegetables among eight individual dishes, decorate with asparagus tips and chervil or parsley.

Beef stroganoff used to be a favourite dinner party dish many years ago. It is still very good and deserves another airing. Its virtue is that it requires no advance planning or preparation. Use trimmed rump steak or tail end of fillet for the best results.

Beef stroganoff
(Serves 6)
2lb/0.90kg steak
salt, pepper
1oz/30g unsalted butter
1 medium onion, peeled and thinly sliced
½lb/225g button mushrooms
3 tsp good white wine (or meat stock)
1 tsp Dijon mustard
3 tsp soured cream
1 tsp Worcester sauce
1 tsp soy sauce
3 drops Angostura bitters
½ tsp tomato purée
fresh dill or chervil for decoration

Remove any gristle, fat and membrane from the steak, and cut into thin finger lengths. Season lightly. Heat the butter in a large heavy frying pan and fry the onion until translucent. Wipe and halve or quarter the mushrooms, depending on size, and add them to the pan. Fry until just browning. Push the onion and mushrooms to the side of the pan, and put in the meat, frying it for no more than three or four minutes until just seared all over. Pour on the wine or stock. Mix the rest of the ingredients except the herbs, and pour it over the meat. Stir in, bring back to the boil and serve immediately with rice, potatoes or fresh pasta.

DRINK

So-so Bordeaux

Jane MacQuitty reports on a first tasting of the '87 vintage

My nephew and a god-daughter were both born in 1987. The question is, what on earth shall I buy to mark their birth year? Given the assembled parents and my own interest in the subject, wine is of course the answer, but where from? Bearing in mind the tricky Bordeaux '87 harvest I had hoped the year would blossom into a great port vintage, but the word from Oporto is not encouraging.

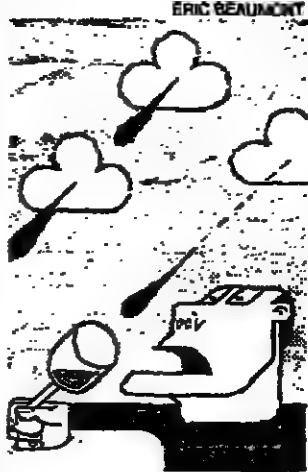
Bruce Gilmann of Fosses told me firmly in April that the most I could expect from the port trade in 1987 were single quinta ports. And recently the Port Information Bureau wrote to say that, bar the odd outstanding wine, '87 ports were at this stage deemed either "useful" or "interesting". Given the freak weather pattern last year, when half the average winter rainfall followed by extraordinarily hot summer temperatures produced one of the earliest vintages in recent times, the port men are deeply grateful that the Douro produced anything at all in 1987.

Back to Bordeaux. As early as August last year, when I was in the region, it was clear that Bordeaux '87 prospects were already insecure. A late uneven flowering had produced an uneven crop, which had not improved during the mostly dreary summer months. Even so, Bordeaux proprietors, especially those from the Merlot-dominated right bank, felt that their '87 wines were likely to be better than either the poor '84 or the '80 vintage. My next visit to Bordeaux was at vintage time when, despite a good long stretch of September sunshine, things looked at their worst for the Bordelais: heavy, almost monsoon-like downpours followed by bursts of sunshine and muggy, humid, ret-inducing weather. The grapes that I saw and tasted were swollen with rain and meekly with rot.

Hardly vintage-of-the-century claret, then, but Bordeaux chateaux owners have stoutly defended their '87s by stating that they are still ahead of the '84s and '84s.

Of all the Bordeaux regions, right bank St Emilion and Pomerol are generally agreed to have produced the finest wines. This is because the early maturing Merlot grape, dominant here, will have been picked and safely transported to the fermentation vat before the rains started in earnest. Christian Moueix from Pomerol's revered Petrus even went so far as hiring a helicopter to hover over his highly prized plot of vines to dry off the damp grapes, rather like a giant hairdryer.

Apart from picking early, other quality factors to bear in mind with Bordeaux '87 are these proprietors who ruthlessly selected only the finest vats, rejecting any that lacked the concentration and flavour their chateaux usually obtained. At some properties as much as 60 per cent of the '87



crop was deemed to a second wine, or the even more humble straight AC level. Big-name bargain hunters should watch out for these wines in the future: prestigious Chateau Palmer is to offer a generic AC Margaux, and Léoville Barton is likely to offer an AC St Julien.

Pleasant though these wines

may well turn out to be, they are not the classy *cru classé* chateau offerings expected from me. And so far I have found little to enthuse over, let alone actually to buy. On the strength of the one London tasting that I attended, the light, thin, watery character and occasionally malodorous style of the admittedly mostly left-bank '87s I tried mean this is not a year to race to buy.

British merchants certainly have not the only two that I know of who are currently offering the '87s as *primeur* are Laytons, 20 Midland Road, London NW1, listing just Cos d'Estournel, plus as *primeur* specialists the Hungerford Wine Company, 128 High Street, Hungerford, Berks with their list of 46 different '87s. So far all I can truly recommend from the '87 Bordeaux vintage is the fine smoky-spicy Chateau Pichon-Longueville-Baron (offered by Hungerford and likely to cost £8.42 per bottle after shipping and duty costs).

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*Minimum order 12 bottles. All prices include delivery. All prices include VAT. All prices include delivery. All prices include VAT. All prices include delivery. All prices include VAT.

THE ARTS

Imitation of life

TELEVISION

As Tony Hancock demonstrated in *The Rebel*, whether figures in the art world look the part is even more problematical than whether figures in art look like people.

Last night we were spoiled for figures — painting, painted and those artfully, rather than artistically, problematical. First in *Artists on Film* (BBC2) we briefly glimpsed the 1979 Anthony Green (wiry, garrulously wife-loving bicyclist, bespectacled and bearded like a Frenchman), the 1980 Robert Bates (modest minimalist, a hangover of hippy hair beneath a drop-out of a bald pate), Helen Bradley (the coyness of a tea lady with tea-cosy clothes, naïve on canvas, knowing in conversation). And the 1977 Arthur Berry (Andy Capp-capped playwright painter with the colourful verbal tones and drab visual ones of *The Potteries*).

Then in David Sweetman's fascinating film for *Omnibus*, *The Bull in Winter — the Last Years of Pablo Picasso* (BBC1), we viewed the final great compositions of the greatest decomposer in art of the human figure, Picasso, of course, looked completely the part but never has an artist been so widely known by his face as by his work.

The issue was rather what he had done to his last wife Jacqueline — on and off the canvas. His friend and biographer, the art historian John Richardson (click, City-suited civilization, so English except when he found a word, if not in *not* just, more easily in French) described with informed intelligence how Picasso moulded Jacqueline's character and appearance and obsessively reworked it in paint.

Not his friend and his still less friendly biographer, Arianna Stassinopoulos (*Dynasty* chic, a millstone of a gold necklace of avoidopolis but not aesthetic interest), with her intimate knowledge of cut-up, not to say, hatchet jobs, thought the late works obscene, misogynistical dissections of an impotent old man. Picasso (who can design as well as wear jewellery) was more concerned how Jacqueline met her and her teacher out of their father's life. Jacqueline ended her own life by deforming her features more cruelly than Picasso ever did with his creative deconstructions of them.

Andrew Hislop

Michael Moorcock, one-time sage of

SF, talks to

Bryan Appleyard

about his

latest novel

Michael Moorcock sits comfortably amidst the happy chaos of his study. The tiny room is packed with books, bound copies of old magazines, records, venerable Sony stereo system and his electric typewriter. Images of Pterrot and Harlequin adorn the walls, a sofa and a table are covered with red and blue velvet. Snaps of his third wife, Linda, balance on the shelves while a music stand supports open copies of *Nash's Magazine*.

Like his head, the place is full of wild ideas, a hippyish profusion in celebration of... well, everything. It is also full of ghosts — of Colonel Pterrot, the warped engineer, and of freedom-fighting Una Persson. But, most potent of all, there is the shade of Jerry Cornelius, the time-travelling dreamer of the 20th century.

With the four Cornelius novels, published in the Seventies, Moorcock established himself as a major writer. They were ambitious, fantastic and downright weird. They were the products of an imagination that could never be satisfied with the tight little conventions of mainstream British fiction. He groans at the very thought of them: "Oh that kind of small, English novel, always in the best possible taste."

"To people of my generation, rock 'n' roll and SF were the two things that were young — there was no body of criticism, they weren't occupied by academics or authority. There was something you could work with and nobody to tell you you shouldn't."

Born in 1939 in Mincham, he was writing and editing his own magazines by the age of nine. His education was patchy: he was, for example, the first boy ever to be expelled from a Rudolf Steiner School. In the Fifties he hung around Soho, writing and editing science fiction and producing "fanzines" in celebration of heroes like Edgar Rice Burroughs.

"I met a lot of people. Nearly all the writers I saw were through



Michael Moorcock: "I was regarded as a barbarian interloper in the world of literature... All I know is I've read more than they have"

doing those fanzines. The SF world kept your feet on the ground — people didn't hedge about, they just came up to you and told you your last story was lousy. It was like the rock 'n' roll scene, we were all together in the same pub or coffee bar."

The Fifties gave Moorcock two things: a vast range of material and a remarkable degree of literary fluency. For magazines he wrote series of stories and 15 20,000-word novellas. "I used to think if a book took more than a month, it wasn't worth writing."

The effect of all this was that, as his writing veered away from these "genre" novels and started receiving respectful "serious" reviews, he appeared to be a writer with a split personality. On the one hand he turned out fantasy potboilers, on the other he wrote *Behold the Man* or the Cornelius tetralogy.

Says Moorcock: "I never did feel the split myself. The first novel I ever wrote was realistic — then I wrote an allegory. Only then did I start writing genre books. They turned out to be the kind of thing I had a talent for."

"When *Behold the Man* came out, that was regarded as a bit posher. But for a long time I was regarded as a barbarian interloper."

I was treated as unsophisticated and naïve — someone who had just wandered into the world of literature. All I know is I've read more than they have..." He chuckles gleefully.

The Sixties were a Golden Age for Moorcock. He was writing as furiously as ever and he was playing and writing songs for the "progressive" rock band Hawkwind. "That was the easiest thing I've ever done, and the most successful. But I was never very much good as a player, and I don't write music. I'm not Anthony Burgess."

"I knew it wouldn't last. I'd lived through the Fifties and I knew nothing could be as bad as that. It's funny to see people mythologizing the Fifties these days, everybody jiving and wearing push jeans. That's nonsense. People were depressed and they had to go into the Army at 18. You could only get two kinds of trousers, working dungarees or grey flannel. It wasn't a fun. The Sixties were marvellous, they opened up everything."

With the Cornelius books, he began to slow down. *The Condition of Muzak* took all of six weeks. Angus Wilson, one of the few modern novelists Moorcock admires, thought they represented some of "the most ambitious, illuminating and enjoyable" fiction in English since the war.

Moorcock was unquestionably at least a decade ahead of his time. Along with his friend J.G. Ballard, he had used the novel form generously and ambitiously to distill the preoccupations of the age. It was not until the Eighties that a new generation of similarly ambitious novelists was to emerge.

His own literary influences are almost entirely 18th and 19th century: he mentions Dickens, George Eliot, Conrad and Fielding. "My reading was largely 19th century. I did read modern novels, but only Jimmy Ballard and Angus Wilson were writing about experience I actually recognized."

He believes in the traditional role of the novelist of entering into the lives of others. The lives of himself, his friends and his relatives are absorbed and transformed into fiction with disturbing speed. He has often discovered to his horror that, with some secondary characters, he has even forgotten to change the names.

There are a few such cases in his latest novel, *Mother London*. But the main characters in the book are aspects of Moorcock himself. David Mummery shares his autobiography and Joseph Kiss some of his personality.

The book is a complex, layered

history of London since the war, seen through the stories of a group of psychiatric patients. Moorcock describes its construction as "symphonic" — its interest derives not from any single plot but from the way each narrative resonates and echoes with the others. We are being shown a city of voices and of words — a landscape as invented as the real thing.

It took him four years. His relative slowness, he explains, was due to increasing age and to the need to allow the book to grow entirely out of characters.

After a bout of pneumonia he decided to turn to a book he had planned for some time about the mythology of modern London. "We all have these myths — about the Royal family or the war. We deify certain people. The book is about the fictionalizing process, but not in a narrow sense. Everything is fictionalized. I actually do believe that if enough people believe something it will actually come true, even if only for a while — like the Third Reich."

© 1988 Times Newspapers Ltd
Mother London by Michael Moorcock is published on Monday by Secker & Warburg (£9.95). The Jerry Cornelius tetralogy — *The Final Programme*, *A Cure for Cancer*, *The English Assassin* and *The Condition of Muzak* — are to be re-issued by Fontana in September.

Treat the ea

OPERA

L'incoronazione di Poppea
Queen Elizabeth Hall/
Radio Three

Monteverdi's *L'incoronazione di Poppea* is a great opera, and its very greatness demands that it is staged. We need to see, in a piece about real, nasty people and their reactions to each other, more than the occasional grimace and wave of the arm that a concert performance offers. Radio listeners, able to use their imaginations, clearly had the advantage in this case.

For the live audience, the evening seemed a longer one at the QEII than would have been the case in a true theatre. Interest, however, was added by the Early Opera Project's decision to perform a text based on the Naples manuscript of the work (the only other primary source is in Venice), but the most significant innovation in their version was the inclusion of the entire last scene, normally truncated to just Nero's and Poppea's final love duet. None of this music, not even that celebrated duet, is actually by Monteverdi. Nevertheless, the sequence, which includes an allegorical number praising Love's eventual — and amoral — victory, makes good theatrical sense; and the music is by no means out of place, even in this illustrious company.

Imitating the practice of public opera houses in 17th-century Italy, the orchestra, the London Baroque Players, was tiny, without wind instruments but far from austere in its effect. The pair of chitarrones and harpsichords provided enough contrast and character demarcation in the continuo lines, while the spice of the two violins was added just sparingly enough to keep it exotic. John Toll, directing from one of the harpsichords, ensured that the music flowed effectively, through neither exaggerating nor diminishing the importance of critical dramatic moments.

Despite one or two disagreements of ensemble, the singers were generally excellent. Carolyn Watkinson had the perfect tonal quality and arrogance of bearing for Nerone, and Nancy Argenta's pure voiced Poppea showed hard ambition as well as genuine love in abundance. Kathleen Kuhlmann's bitterly hard Ottavia, in her crucial scene with Timothy Wilson's vulnerable and jealous Ottone, rivalled her with an apt viciousness.

Howard Milner offered a brilliantly comical Arnalta, while the rest of the cast, and particularly the beguilingly boyish Cupid of Tessa Bonner and the unbearably pompous Seneca of Richard Wisniewski, gave strong support.

Stephen Pettitt

CONCERT

Northern Sinfonia/Hickox
Spitalfields

Robin Holloway's music has, over the years, attracted more than its fair share of stinging criticism. Often it seems as if it is his very mellifluousness and accessibility that arouses suspicion. But there is much more to Holloway's music than — as has been uncharitably suggested — mere note-spinning in a conservative and outdated idiom.

His engagement with the German Romantic tradition (Schumann and Wagner have been earlier favourites) bears surprisingly varied fruit. This time, in the Horn Concerto of 1980, receiving its first complete performance at the Spitalfields Festival, it was the turn of Richard Strauss.

Drawing on adapted classical structures such as sonata and rondo, Holloway fills his canvas with an ever-inventive discourse. Modulations twist endlessly, high up in the strings in the approved Straussian manner. Moreover, the solo part, though taxing in its length, is written for the instrument: Barry Tuckwell, a genial and sympathetic soloist, never had to battle against his orchestral colleagues.

Holloway springs his last surprise with a Rondo finale that starts with a naïve kindergarten-type tune which is rhythmically extended to jovial effect. Tying perily with banality, the movement weaves and dodges its way through to a conventional curtain-call conclusion. Trite or daring? A bit of each, but a novel solution to the last-movement problem.

The reverberant acoustic of Christ Church, Spitalfields, was perhaps more fitting for the heroic gestures of Beethoven's *Caroline* Overture than for the open-air atmosphere of the Pastoral Symphony, but the latter emerged in clear, bright colours — notably the shifting modulations of the first movement. I relished the lilting, wide-eyed charm of the Andante and the fervour of the post-storm thanksgiving.

The clean playing of the string sections, coupled with some delightful wind solos, lifted this performance by the Northern Sinfonia under Richard Hickox well above the routine.

Barry Millington

Netting the benefits

Some criticize the Net Book Agreement, which prevents discounting of new titles. Stuart Binney puts the argument for keeping the status quo

The debate about the Net Book Agreement has been curiously one-sided. Its proponents, of whom there are many, are convinced of its virtues, but their voices are rarely heard outside the book trade. It is surely time that they spoke up, if for no other reason than to convince the public that there are two sides to the question.

The principal criticisms of the Net Book Agreement have been that it stands in the way of progress, not least because it impedes the growth of the bookselling chains. It has also been claimed that booksellers are dominated by their suppliers — the publishers — to a degree not evident in other trades. The Net Book Agreement, it is also argued, makes books more expensive, though which books and by how much has never clearly been set out.

It is a matter of incredulity to me that any in the book trade can argue that the agreement works against their interests. The book-selling chains, including Hatchards, have been the beneficiaries of the absence of price competition, no less than independent booksellers. It is the principal reason why there are so many books and why it is possible for book retailers to trade from high street locations.

Moreover, the bookselling chains are ill-equipped to wage a price war. They have no central distribution; in the absence of electronic point of sale they have only the vaguest notion of which books are selling best and being

specialists they lack the wide variety of merchandise which would make it possible to make good any margin lost on books as a result of price reductions. There is really only one bookseller likely to thrive in the absence of the Net Book Agreement and that is W.H. Smith. If booksellers are ungrateful for the Net Book Agreement, how much more so the publishers? Their lukewarm support first put the issue on the table; their resounding silence denies the benefits that the years have brought. Outside the book trade, manufacturers know only too well the destructive impact of price competition. The outcome of any free-for-all in the retail market place would be fewer retailers and fewer publishers, as large retailers and large publishers ordered the marketplace to their mutual benefit. Gone would be the diversity of trade customers, so supportive or minority publications, so helpful to new authors.

Should this contraction concern the book buying public? What of the five million households who rarely buy a book? Book retailing in the United States gives some indication of the problems resulting from a combination of fierce price competition and high rentals. No bright new shopping in the bookshops of New York, little depth of stock, no merchandising designed to steer the customer beyond the obvious. Why use price reductions as a means of enticing casual purchasers into bookshops if only to deny them a wide choice of books? If there is a price to be paid for diversity, then on the evidence of the New York bookshops, we should pay it gladly. Imagine what it would be like if books, like records, were known only for the volume sold.

Stuart Binney is the group managing director of Hatchards Bookshop.

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The York Cycle survivors

THEATRE

Mystery Plays
York

The core of the York Festival, continuing until July 3, is an edited version of the city's own cycle of Mystery Plays, dating from about 1400 and in those days performed annually on Corpus Christi. Steven Pimlott's production draws on 24 of the plays — 48 have survived, each one originally the responsibility of a different Guild (Fishers for *Noye's Flood*, Butchers for *The Crucifixion*) that performed them on wagons drawn through the crowded streets.

Modern productions are played against the arches of the ruined Abbey with an upper walkway at window-level and pits in the ground that yawn open to haul in Lucifer, Herod, Judas and other rejected specimens.

The York Cycle is the complete version we have of the surviving handful of English Mystery Plays, but it is also the most elementary in style, and when filtered to bring it within a three-hour compass, its version of biblical events becomes even more summary. The playlets are reduced to being reminders of events familiar from elsewhere, seldom long or strong enough to exist in their own right.

This shortcoming can be disguised by the adroit use of scenic effects and some of Pimlott's are splendid. A confident 13-year-old boy (Jon Lacy-Colson playing God) gives the character an ageless power, and some of his angels are even younger, clad in neat jenkins and spotless shirts, unlike the majority of erring human kind, all played by citizens of York, and mostly dressed in black.

When Noye's entourage enters



Victor Bannerjee as Christ: the only professional in the cast cannot entirely rid the role of sentimentality

the Ark and the first musical drops of rain are falling, the revellers take out sea-blue umbrellas and shuffle across to the hull to become the waves above their drowned corpses.

Other ideas are not successful. Annas and Caiaphas in the robes of Christian bishops, IHS embroidered on their copes, contradicts the message of the text. If they are called Jewish priests, they should look like it.

Victor Bannerjee, the only professional actor, gives Jesus intelligence and grace, though he cannot entirely rid the role of sentimentality.

Tribute to idols

Hard Day's Night
Battersea Arts Centre

is a decidedly backhanded tribute to the girls' idols: first liberating them with the idea that "these days you can be anything you want to be", and leaving them 25 years later still belting out the choruses to love and hope which life has so far failed to provide.

There is nothing plaintive about them; they are written and played

As so often with religious drama, the scenes that sparkle across the centuries are those that humanize the holiness. In this particular account of Noye's domestic life, the laughs are meagre, but Joseph's dismay at the pregnancy of his betrothed fills a gap in the gospels that must have answered unvoiced questions as the wagons trundled round the medieval city. Duncan Savage starts off aghast with outrage, lets this subside into comical grumbling, and is then converted to delight by the charms of the Christchild, here played by an actual and alert baby.

The verse has the sound of Gerard Manley Hopkins feeling his way to sprung rhythm, and when the cast does not shout, they show an impressive feel for its cadences.

Nevertheless, the trail of simple scenes does become One Blessed Thing After Another — except for one vivid expansion of Matthew's Slaughter of the Innocents which makes one of the women the wet nurse to Herod's own son. Significantly, this fascinating passage is a modern insert.

Jeremy Kingston

With raw vanderbelle gusto sparking with a lifetime of mental irritation, What diminishes their theatrical interest is the sight of such glib characters occupying an entirely passive role.

Over Robert Sian's production there hovers the idea that the girls have been cheated out of their rightful hopes, but there is no sign that they ever had any definite intentions; so, like the play itself, they mark time while what they have is taken away, and even their club routine is finally slashed to accommodate a hill-topping entertainer who eats mice.

Otherwise, the piece escapes the usual monotony of two-handers by the partners' doubling as their appalling men, and by close harmony singing that really hits the spot.

Irving Wardle

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Irving Wardle

REVIEW

High talent

ROCK RECORDS

Steve Winwood: Roll With It (Virgin V2532)
Van Morrison & The Chieftains: Irish Heartbeat (Mercury 834 486-2)

Roll With It is Steve Winwood's first release under the reputedly generous terms of his new recording contract, and the warm, loose tenor of its title song is the general direction of the music. The Sixties teenage prodigy, who was written off as an "acid casualty" by the time he was 30, has never relinquished the extraordinarily penetrating, high-pitched singing voice with which he was blessed, even if at times he has tended to sound like a man who has just sat down on a red hot poker. But on this beguiling collection of retro-Stax pastiches, contemporary adult rock themes and sultry ballads, he almost begins to sound relaxed.

The Campaign for Real Music types will be delighted to hear, on the title track, a swelling Hammond organ sound meshing in with energetic, good-time contributions from the famed Memphis Horns, who also feature on three other songs. Likewise

fans of Winwood's last release, 1986's multi-platinum *Back In The High Life*, will welcome the soaring melody and dependable backbeat of "Dancing Shoes". He is a talented man who knows how to cover the bases.

If there is one white contemporary of Winwood's who is able to match the peculiarly insistent quality of his singing and bring a broader, spiritual dimension to his work, then it is the Belfast expatriate Van Morrison. This great performer continues to prompt a sense of wonder with *Irish Heartbeat*, an inspired collaboration with the Irish folk group The Chieftains. It is a collection of traditional songs, and two Morrison compositions in a similar vein, played with sprightly grace on acoustic instruments and sung by Morrison in his clipped, truculent manner. The antecedents of Morrison's unique rock singing style are laid bare in songs like "Star Of The County Down" and "Marie's Wedding", where his ragged, soulful phrasing blends into the fabric of the pure Celtic folk melodies like the sea meeting the sky.

David Sinclair

Sketch artists

JAZZ RECORD

Gil Evans/Steve Lacy: Paris Blues (Owl LD49)

The musical relationship of Gil Evans and the soprano saxophonist Steve Lacy goes back three decades, documented in such albums as *The Stranger's Touch*. This latest recording was made in Paris at the end of last year, only a matter of months before Evans's death. Lacy describes the session as merely a sketch for a full-scale collaboration. But as well as a tantalizing sense of what might have been, it proves a rewarding showcase for Evans's rarely-heard technique on both acoustic and electric piano. As a memorial, it is certainly more appropriate than last month's lacklustre tribute at the Festival

Hall. The title track is, of course, yet another effortless gem by Duke Ellington. According to Lacy, Evans did not know the piece prior to the session, which makes his teasing accompaniment all the more remarkable. There is equally evocative blues soloing on Charles Mingus's "Reincarnation Of A Lovebird" and the elegiac "Goodbye Pork Pie Hat". The centrepiece, however, is a 15-minute exploration of another Mingus classic, "Orange Was The Color Of Her Dress, Then Blue Silk", a piece which became a staple feature of Evans's live performances. The piano solo here exploits spare chords and casual but dramatic pauses in the best Ellington tradition.

Clive Davis

Dark despair

CLASSICAL RECORDS

Magnard: *Guercoeur*.
Soloists, Orchestre Donostarra, Toulouse Capitole
Orchestra/Plasson, EMI 7491938 (three CDs)

In the twilight after *Parsifal* many lesser French operas, besides *Pelléas*, stumbled into being. Albéric Magnard, a pupil of d'Indy, wrote *Guercoeur* in 1897-1901 as an allegory of the sombre outlook that dragged on other works of his that have been revived, notably the last two of his four symphonies.

In a story of the composer's own invention *Guercoeur*, the dead tribute of a city republic, implores the celestial beings, led by Truth, to restore him to the world. There he discovers that his wife has taken his successor as her lover, and that this successor is on the point of establishing a

dictatorship, with the fickle populace's consent. He dies again and returns to heaven, where Truth sings him to sleep with a final vision of matter and spirit evolving towards enlightenment. This gives the work a quietly luminous conclusion, but its predominant tone is dark and despairing. In particular, the grave central role provides a wonderful vehicle for José van Dam: he is, as Magnard would surely have wished, clear-sighted and untroubled in his pessimism. Hildegard Behrens shoots a brilliant, fiery line as the voice of Truth, and there is excellent work, too, from the soprano Nadine Denize as *Guercoeur*'s wife. The Spanish choir is sometimes an oddity, but this is a compelling rescue of a work seemingly made for oblivion, so deep does its hopelessness go.

Paul Griffiths

Undergraduate art

PAPERBACKS

Granta, Home, 23 (Penguin, £4.95)



This, I remember hearing, is an undergraduate literary magazine that has "gone national". No, I remember replying, it is the nation's literary taste that has gone undergraduate.

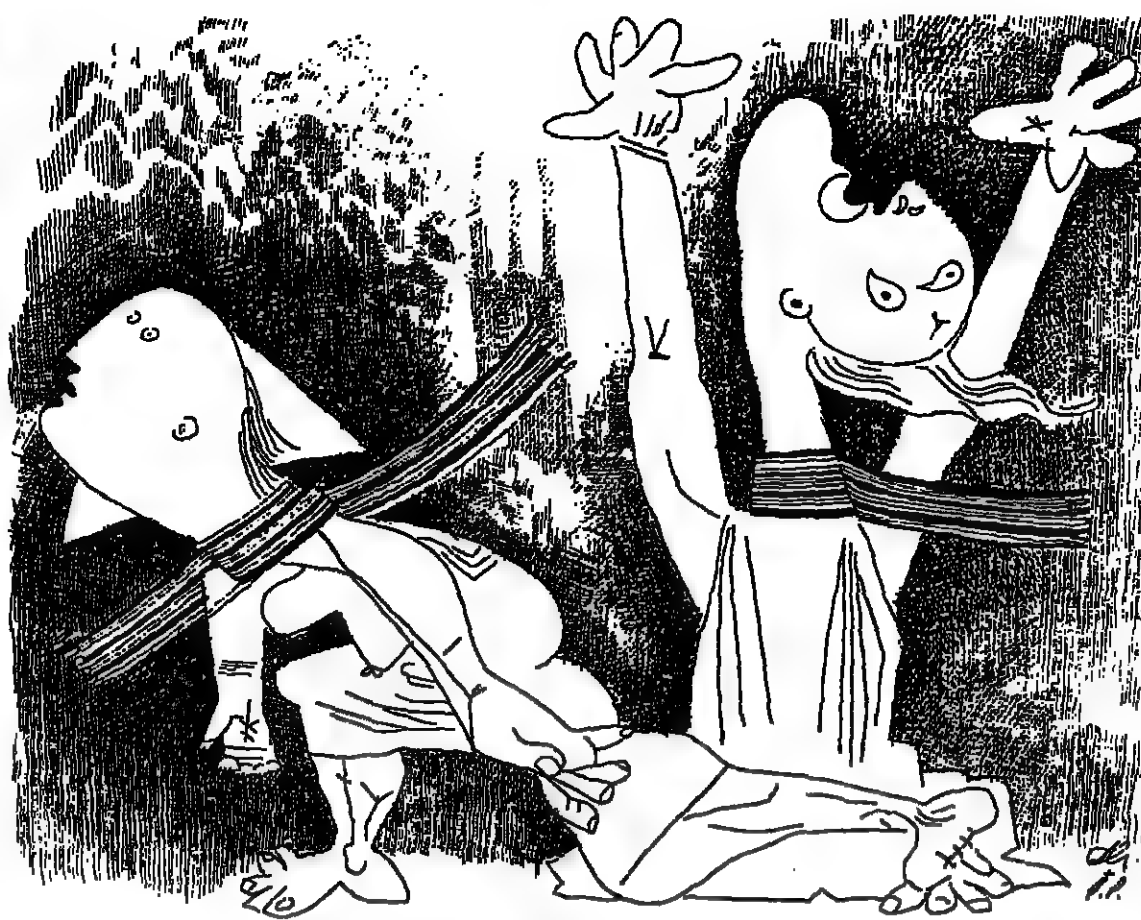
The new *Granta*, the Cambridge quarterly taken by Penguin under its fat little wing, at last allows me to elaborate.

Undergraduates, young or not, at Cambridge as elsewhere, possess intellectual strengths and weaknesses unique to their position in life; and the literary magazines they edit and publish condense these qualities into a microcosm. One such trait is the undergraduate's predilection for art, understood to be something odd, bizarre, or vaguely unpleasant, and often represented visually by means of "unconventional" typesetting or the use of "graphics".

Perhaps the editors of *Granta* opine that the subject of Fawaz Traboulsi's "Guide to the City of Beirut" is so narrowly political that a dash of art, in the form of distended fragments of Picasso's "Guernica" (juxtaposed with photographs of Beirut's weeping and wounded), is necessary to turn this description of "the effects of cluster and phosphorus bombs" (juxtaposed with inspiring quotations from Dolores Ibaruri and other Soviet heroes) into a cultural statement. But an adult reader may well find Mr Traboulsi's analogy between 1936 Spain and 1982 Lebanon historically dubious, and think the illustrations puerile.

Another undergraduate weakness is the Famous Person. Here the part is played by an American, Martha Gellhorn, reminiscing about the Thirties. "Aged twenty-one, with a suitcase and about seventy-five dollars, I set off for Paris." In 1930, that was a small fortune, of course; Famous Persons do tend to lose track, though the reader of an undergraduate magazine is expected to take their word for it none the less.

Later, back in Depression America, Miss Gellhorn is hired by the Federal



Emergency Relief Administration: "I knew a lot about unemployment." She is befriended by the President and Mrs Roosevelt, "herself a moral true north". Her salary is \$75 a week "and five dollars per diem travel allowance for food and hotels", in return for which she reports on the life of the poor. She reports that a woman with five children lives on \$3.40 a week. Appalling? But if she, the intrepid Miss Gellhorn in a Schiaparelli suit in nubby brown tweed, had distributed her annual salary among the unemployed, keeping only her "allowance" — 10 times the dole for a family of six — some 1,060 such families could have been fed for a week. This, apparently, did not occur to the Famous Person then, nor has it since. What she does remember is being invited to dinner at the White House,

seated next to the President, and "hating this table full of cheerful well-fed guests in evening clothes". What moral superficiality! But what of the magazine's youthful strengths? These are also in evidence in the *Granta* microcosm. "Home" is the theme of the current number, but the editors are open-minded enough to control the cosmopolitan urge that marks parochial ventures of this kind. Alongside abstract stains of local colour like "The Retreat from Galilee" by Anton Shammas ("It was the custom of our family to have stuffed tripe for dinner on Mondays"), one finds "Essex" by Norman Lewis. This story of the village of Long Crendon, in the "ugliest country", is at once sober and lyrical, logical yet curiously unpredictable, oppressively local but revealing of some of the most disturb-

ing social truths of our time. It is the story of England, and of the world. Undergraduates are good at making real achievements out of mere attempts. With the same exuberance as a student reporter, Nicholas Shakespeare flies off "In Pursuit of Guzman". He does not find him, but he tells the story with brilliant accuracy, and the reader sees the future dictator of Peru as a hundred professional interviewers could never have exposed him. Imagine reading, in 1916, a reporter's account of his unsuccessful journey "In Pursuit of Stalin". Perhaps only unprofessional journalism has the power of changing history for the better. What is doubtful is whether a similar approach to literature can produce an equally good result.

Andrei Navrozov

A vote for life's labour

BOOKS IN BRIEF

The Wrench, by Primo Levi, translated by William Weaver (Abacus, £4.95)

It seems contradictory, or even uncomfortable, to sit down and pick up for pleasure a book that purports to celebrate the work ethic, and more specifically the dignity of manual labour. Yet the collected stories of *The Wrench*, in their tribute to man in his capacity as *Homo faber*, also amount to a tribute to the art of storytelling. Fausto, the engaging rigger, emerges with nothing short of heroic stature. In conversation with Primo Levi, he recalls funny and stirring incidents while building bridges and erecting cranes all over the world. Though he eats, drinks and sleeps job satisfaction, very often the work-in-progress is not a success, but a challenge in itself. Levi's measured assessment of such professionalism makes of "construction" a philosophy of life: whether labouring over daily work, building a career, or

planning the future, man is a constructor of sorts. This is a surprisingly wise and wonderful book.

The Maid of Buttermere, by Melvyn Bragg (Sceptre, £3.95)

This is a powerful historical romance based on a true story (reported by Coleridge in *The Morning Post* in 1802) of a marriage between a Lakeland innkeeper's daughter and a captain, who posed as Col the Hon Alexander Augustus Hope, MP, in order to lure an heiress from the rich and fashionable Lake town. No sooner are they married than the Bow Street Runners — and a jilted heiress — are hot on "False" Hope's trail.

Up to this point, Bragg has taken the trappings of historical romance and told a tremendous story according to formula; but he goes further, making more of the history than the romance. It is a long, serious read, but enjoyably sprawling, seeped in Wordsworthian landscape, contemporary dialogue and brilliant cameo sketches.

The Stories of Tobias Wolff (Picador, £5.95)

This volume, collecting all of Wolff's previously published stories together with his acclaimed bold novella *The Barracks Thief*, teems with bustling ordinary American folk going about their everyday concerns. His is a plain-talking world of arguing neighbours, family frictions, smoking schoolboys and people at work.

The Barracks Thief is a masterful showcase of Wolff's ability to lay false tracks. Initially it seems to be about Guy Bishop and his two sons; but Guy abandons his family, and attention focuses on his son Philip and the broken home. But then Philip joins the army and there, the barracks thief comes in and steals the story. This technique, deliberate and bare, is appropriate to the subject, which is how chance circumstances are all pointers along an inevitable track to self-discovery.

Sarah Edworthy

Sofia's choice

Gavin Miller, a 27-year-old graduate of the Camberwell School of Art, left for the Sofia, the Bulgarian capital, this week to open an exhibition of his paintings. He was first approached about the possibility of a show after Mr Alexander Beshkov, the head of culture at Bulgarian TV, singled out his work at the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition in 1986. Miller says: "I think Mr Beshkov felt it was the right time to broaden some horizons in Bulgaria, where very little is known about contemporary British art." An honour though it is, the temptation to not make Miller rich, he says, "Even if anyone thought one would not be allowed to take the money out of the country."

Film boom

India has overtaken Hollywood as the world's biggest film producer, according to a survey conducted by the Ministry of Culture in Delhi. It reports that no fewer than 807 feature films were produced in the sub-continent last year. Still not satisfied, the Indian government has assigned a colossal 15 billion rupees to further expand the industry.

House of Peers

After 250 years, Lady Mary Wortley Montagu's play, *Simplicity*, finally opens in London next week to an audience of her relatives, Diana, Duchess of Newcastle, and the Earl of Harrowby, both direct descendants, will be at the opening night at the Donmar Warehouse on Wednesday. Lord Montagu de Beaulieu, chairman of English Heritage, has promised to go another evening. The publicity material calls *Simplicity* a "long lost theatrical gem", which may be fair enough. But it takes a liberty claiming Lady Mary was a friend of Pope's. Besides an uncharitable reference in *The Dunciad*, he wrote elsewhere: "One could be pock'd by her love or libelled by her hate."

ACTT nymphs

All night tonight, the Queen Elizabeth Hall will play at being Renaissance Italy. Since *The Revels of Siena*, a mid-summer's evening of masquerade and music does not begin until 11pm, director Anthony Rooley has brought in outside help. It sounds as if they will resemble no stage hands I have ever seen: stage directions call for them to be dressed as "nymphs and shepherds".

Andrew Billen

BRIDGE

In the money

Only a few years ago the very mention of money prizes was enough to make the directors of the English Bridge Union purse their lips in Victorian disapproval. There were dangers about the incoherence of cheating, although this posture didn't cut much ice, as money tournaments were commonplace on the other side of the Channel. I suspect that the opposition stemmed from a deep Puritan antipathy tracing back to the days when a pack of cards was described as the "Devil's Picture Book".

It is good news to report that in a volte face even more remarkable than anything Mr Gorbachov has achieved, the EBU has granted a licence to the "Grand Prix of Great Britain", a new tournament endowed with prize money of £32,000. Paul Hackett has been trying for many years to overcome the EBU's resistance to money prizes. I hope his exciting promotion will attract the attention of the media, who have hitherto been inclined to dismiss bridge. For further details write to Paul Hackett, the New Bridge World Club, at Broad Oak Lane, Didsbury, Manchester 20 (telephone 061 446 2090).

It is encouraging that the financial and geographical boundaries of the bridge world are expanding. This interesting hand from the teams of four league championship in Prague was spotted by Jaroslav Sedlak. Teams: North-South Game. Dealer: West.

	♠ K		♠ AJ 10 8 4
	♥ J 7		♥ 10 4 3
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THE WEEK AHEAD



BOOKS

ROMANTIC POETESS: Elizabeth Barrett Browning's fame has been eclipsed by the melodramatic twaddle about the elopement from Wimpole Street. She was the poet and intellectual; Robert the clever young person by comparison. Margaret Forster's biography, published next Thursday by Chatto & Windus, £14.95, resurrects the remarkable woman. Simultaneously Chatto & Windus publish a selection of her poems (£10.95) to demonstrate that EBB was more proper poet than romantic heroine.



ROCK

EN ROUTE: Randy Travis, the 28-year-old New Country superstar from North Carolina, makes his UK concert debut tomorrow. Since signing a recording contract in 1985, Travis has released two million-selling albums, *Storms Of Life* and *Forever And Ever*, and won most of the major awards on offer in the country music world of glittering prizes. Tomorrow's show is the centrepiece of the Route 66 festival, and also features Sweethearts of the Rodeo. Royal Albert Hall, London SW6 (01-589 8212).



GALLERIES

THE LAST JUDGEMENT: Picasso has had critics constantly arguing about the quality of his late work. Is it, as some of them claim, the superannuated doodling of an aimless genius? Or is it, as David Hockney believes, the most fertile and dazzling period of the great man's long career? You can make up your own mind at an exhibition of 150 paintings, sculptures, drawings and prints, made between 1953 and his death in 1973, which is on show at the Tate Gallery, London SW1 (01-821 7128). From Thursday.



OPERA

WAGNER'S QUEEN: Cheryl Studer has become probably the most sought-after Wagner soprano of the new generation. She makes her Covent Garden debut as Elsa in Monday's revival of *Lohengrin*, to be repeated at Bayreuth next month. And it was at Bayreuth she first came to international notice in *Tannhäuser*, which she has just recorded for DG. In December she goes to La Scala for the new production of Rossini's *Guillaume Tell* to sing Mathilde, with Muriel Cazzulani. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden (01-240 1066).



FILMS

DANNY'S DEBUT: Danny DeVito, the pugnacious pocket-sized character comedian best-known for his role in *Taxi*, has a hit on his hands with his first cinema film as director, a jaunty black comedy called *Throw Momma From The Train* (15). DeVito plays an adult student of creative writing who becomes inspired by Hitchcock's film *Strangers on a Train*, and proposes a murderous deal with his frustrated teacher, played by Billy Crystal. Anne Ramsey is the monstrous Momma. Odeon Leicester Square (01-930 6111), from Friday.



DANCE

CATS AND TATYANA Lymn Seymour has two big dates coming up. First, in her role as choreographer at Birmingham Hippodrome (021-622 7846) on Friday and June 25 when Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet premiere *Basset*, about the unlikely subject of an Egyptian cat goddess. Michael Berkeley has written the music. But Seymour will be returning to dancing next month when she tackles one of Cranko's biggest roles for the first time, as Tatyana in *Olegin* at the London Coliseum (01-836 3161).

THEATRE LONDON

FACADES: Frances de la Tour as Edith Sitwell, with Graham Crowden, Sheila Reid, Garry Cooper, Aubrey Morris, directed by Simon Callow, in premiere of William Hume play. Lyric Studio, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (01-741 2311). Preview today (matinee and evening), Mon and Tues (matinee) Opens Wed.

F.I.S.T.: Festival of International Street Theatre, including groups from Kenya, Poland, Holland, Italy, Switzerland, France, Belgium, five days each. Covent Garden Piazza, WC2 (Information 240 3451) Opens Mon, Mon-Fri, 1pm.

A FINE FILM OF ASHES: Steve Stail's new performance piece about psychic disturbance. Institute of Contemporary Arts (01-930 3847). Opens Mon.

GREEK: Steven Berkoff directs and stars in his own up-dating of the Oedipus legend, with George Brown, Gillian Eaton, Bruce Payne. Wyndham's (01-836 3028). Public Dress Rehearsal Wed. Preview from Thurs. Opens June 29.

OXFORD COMEDY SHOWCASE: David Schneider, Armando Iannucci, George Brown, present "an alternative to alternative comedy". New End Theatre, Hampstead, NW3 (01-784 0022). Opens Tues

POMMES: British premiere of Australian David (Cheapest). Allen's study of Britain in 1954. Directed by Ted Cragg. Croydon Warehouse, 62 Dingwall Road, Croydon, Surrey (01-680 4060). Preview from Fri. Opens June 29.

OUT OF TOWN

EDINBURGH: Mr Bolivar: James Britton's centenary production of his wartime comedy of the occult, directed by Ian Woodridge. With James Cairncross. Royal Lyceum (031 229 9997). Free preview Thurs. Opens Fri.

EXETER: Bunter: Premiere of musical by John Judd. Paul Knight based on the Frank Richards character. With Patsy Rowlands, David Timson. Northcott (0392 54853). Opens Tues.

NEWBURY: My Wife: What'sname: Premiere of farce by Christopher Lillipap and Jonathan Izard. West End-bound. Watlington, Bagnor (0635 46044). Opens Tues.

WINDSOR: Hand Over Fist: Caroline Blackiston, Angela Douglas, Moray Watson, Peter Cartwright. New play by Richard Eyre about a City broker. Theatre Royal (0753 853888). Opens Tues.

CONCERTS

MOZART, MAHLER: Sir Colin Davis conducts the LSO in Mozart's Clarinet Concerto (Andrew Marriner, soloist) and Mahler's *Sinfonia da Requiem* (Marjane Lipovick, soprano, and Kenneth Riegel, tenor). Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191, cc 01-928 8800). Today, 7.30pm.

PHIPPS, FOWKE: Simon Phipps conducts the London Concert Orchestra in Rossini's *Gazza Lutra* Overture, Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No 2 (soloist, Philip Fowke), Handel's *Water Music*, Shostakovich's *Finlandia* and Tchaikovsky's *Capriccio Italien*. Barbican Centre, Silk St, London EC2 (01-638 8891). Today, 8pm.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 24

ZYTHUM

(b) A kind of beer brewed by the Ancient Egyptians, enthusiastically commended by Diogenes Socrates, from the Greek *zythos*.

FOSSICK

(a) To dig for gold, mine, poke about in a cave; apparently not too very precisely from Northern dialect for a troublesome person.

BAMBY

(b) Grotesque, over-the-top ornamentation in architecture or books, presumed to be a corruption of *bambino*.

RAGGIES

(b) A pair of loose-cut boxer-type men's bathing trunks. *New York Times*: "Girls in bikinis and boys in raggies."

PREVIEW/RPO: The RPO is conducted by André Previn in Berlioz's *Beatrice and Benedict* Overture, Prokofiev's Violin Concerto No 2 (Viktoria Mullova, soloist) and Beethoven's Symphony No 5. Royal Festival Hall, Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

PERAHIA/LUPU: Murray Perahia conducts the ECO in Mozart's *Serenade K 388* and then is joined by Radu Lupu in the Concerto for two pianos K 365 and the two-piano version of the Concerto for three pianos K 242. Barbican Centre, Tues, 7.45pm.

CECILE OUSSET: at the piano plays Beethoven's *Sonata in C minor* op 111, Chopin's *Scherzo Op 4*, Debussy's *Deux Arabesques* and *Estampes*, with Ravel's *Valses nobles et sentimentales*. Wigmore Hall, 36 Wigmore Street, London W1 (01-935 2141). Sun, 7.30pm, 24-27.50.

RADIO

THIRD EAR: Amos Oz, the Israeli writer whose latest novel, *Black Box*, is about to be published in Britain, talks about his work to Alan Melville. Radio 3, Tues, 7.05-7.30pm.



Twenty years ago this week, Tony Hancock committed suicide in a hotel room in Australia. He was only 44. The last moments of his life are imagined by Heathcote Williams in his play, *Hancock's Last Half Hour*, which the author has adapted for radio with Richard Briers (above) as Hancock. Along with a bundle of press cuttings and a bottle of vodka, Hancock gives his farewell performance. Radio 3, Tuesday, 10.15-11pm.

FILMS

CROCODILE DUNDEE II (PG): Disappointingly flat sequel to the runaway Aussie hit, with Paul Hogan repeating his role as the king of the outback at large in America. With Linda Kozlowski; directed by John Cornell. Empire (01-437 1234). From Wed.

WINGS OF DESIRE (15): Wim Wenders's epic tale of two angels watching over the citizens of Berlin. Beautifully shot, with Bruno Ganz and Otto Sander as the heavenly emissaries: Curt Bois and Peter Falk are among the humans. Lumiere (01 221 0220) from Fri

OPERA

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE: Revival of *Lohengrin*, Mon and Fri. Both performances, conducted by Jeffrey Tate, start at 8.30pm. Tonight and Wed at 7pm, Dame Joan Sutherland's *Anna Bolena*; Tues and Sat June 25 at 7.30pm Verdi's *Macbeth*. Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066).

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: *Fidelio* tonight and Sat June 25 at 7.30pm; *The Cunning Little Vixen* on Mon, Wed and Fri at 7.30pm; and two final performances of Nicholas Hynes's *The Magic Flute* on Tues and Thurs at 7pm. Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-936 3161).

GLYNDEBOURNE FESTIVAL: Tonight and Thurs at 8.20pm, Nikolaus Lehnhoff's production of *Karl's Kabanova*. Nigel Osborne's powerful new opera, *The Electrification of the Soviet Union*, tomorrow (5.20pm) and Wed (6.20pm). Returns only. Glyndebourne, Lewes, East Sussex (0273 841111).

ROCK

THE FESTIVAL OF YOUTH: Amnesty International presents a stellar cast including Akwad, the Stranglers, New Model Army, Big Audio Dynamite, the Bhundu Boys, the Icicle Works and many others. Gates 11am. Today and tomorrow, Milton Keynes Bowl (cc 01-240 7200).

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN: A well-known singer from New Jersey. Tues and Wed, Aston Villa FC.

JAZZ

GLASGOW JAZZ FESTIVAL: Main attractions at the 10-day event include composer-in-residence Gerry Mulligan, Oscar Peterson and John McLaughlin. Various venues, Glasgow (Info: 041 226 3262) From Fri.

NINA SIMONE: Back for two more nights following her triumph at the beginning of the month. Dominion Theatre, London W1 (01 580 8845) Fri, Sat.

DIANNE REEVES: The Blue Note label's hottest vocal property, though her debut album was a confusion of styles. Wag Club, London W1 (01-437 5534) Mon.

TELEVISION

CRYSTAL CLEAR: TV version of Phil Young's award-winning stage play about the love affair between a diabetic art dealer and a blind woman social worker. BBC1, Tues, 9.30-10.50pm.

WIDEWORLD: Eric and Wanda Newby take a journey along the Grand Trunk Road from Calcutta to Delhi in a battered yellow taxi. BBC2, Wed, 8.10-9pm.

THE PARACHUTE: David Marcor's 1968 play about an antiseptic German family during the Nazi period launches a retrospective tribute to one of the finest TV dramatists. BBC1, Thurs, 9.30-10.50pm.

DANCE

RAMBERT DANCE COMPANY: Telly's *Pierrot Lunaire* and Austin's *Puccinella* make tonight's programme. Mon-Thurs: Three works by fashion designers: Body Maps Swamp, Victor Edelstein's *Rhapsody in Blue*, and Catherine Hammett's *Strong Language*. Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (01-278 8916).

Subtle Spanish practices

The Golden Age of English drama burst into existence about the time of the Armada and petered out under Charles I, a half-century crammed chock-a-block with the entire output of Shakespeare, Marlowe, Jonson and a dozen lesser lights. Shakespeare has never been long out of fashion but his pre-eminence pushed his contemporaries into the shade, seldom produced, read by scholars but forgotten by everyone else.

Only in recent times has a change in taste exhumed them, the popular explanation for this being that the grim uncertainty and corruptions of Jacobean life are akin to those of our own. "Webster was much possessed by death," wrote Eliot, as were Ford, Tournier and Middleton — and possessed by other profound concerns (destruction of innocence, the effects of lust, the lure of murder) that have the power to agitate our minds today.

The argument of "relevance" can be taken only so far. We are no longer amazed that high-born women should be sexually attracted to low-born men, which Jacobean regarded as a bizarre social gaffe, yet this is one of the crucial dramatic elements in *The Changeling*, written by Thomas Middleton with William Rowley, and now previewing at the National Theatre.

What makes the subject into riveting drama is the subtly drawn, marvellously credible character of the heroine, Beatrice, who moves from an instinctive loathing of her father's servant, de Flores, calling him "toad-pool", "dog-face" and a lot worse, into the fatal involvement that bears her off to her doom.

Pepys saw the play and liked it, but soon afterwards *The Changeling* disappeared from the stage and had remained unperformed for 250 years when Tony Richardson revived it in the 1950s. In 1969, Richard Eyre directed it for the Edinburgh Festival, and it is



Spoilt child into frantic adult: Miranda Richardson stars in *The Changeling*, directed by Richard Eyre

the play he has chosen to be his first production since being named Peter Hall's successor as director of the National Theatre.

Playing Beatrice is Miranda Richardson, making her NT debut, though it will not be the first time she has worked with Eyre. He directed her at the Royal Court two years ago in *Edmond*, Mamet's ferocious play about New York after dark. Her performance as Ruth Ellis in the film *Dance With A Stranger* won her

several awards and she has since appeared in *Empire of the Sun*, as an excitable Queen Bess in *Blackadder II*, and as the doctored, man-stabbing wife in Simon Gray's *After Pilkington*.

The NT's production team is reluctant to reveal how Eyre will be tackling the play, other than to say that the play's Hispanic setting is preserved. As for the meaning of the title: there is a character described as a "changeling" in the comic subplot — set in a

madhouse and assumed to be the work of Rowley, an obscure but industrious hack. But the real changelings are the central pair: de Flores (George Harris), ill-favoured from birth, and Beatrice herself, the spoilt child who grows into a frantic adult.

Jeremy Kingston

The Changeling is at the National Theatre (Lyttelton), South Bank, London SE1 (01-938 2262). Preview from tonight 7.45pm, first night Wednesday.

BOOKINGS

SCULPTURE IN THE CLOSE: A mixed bag of contemporary sculpture including pieces by David Nash, Veronica Ryan, Barry Flanagan and Richard Long. Jesus College, Cambridge (0223-68511). From Monday.

ARTISTS IN NATIONAL PARKS: Eleven artists, including painter Peter Greenham and sculptor Helen Chadwick, were commissioned to make works about a National Park of their choice. Victoria and Albert Museum, London SW7 (01-938 8500) From Thursday

PHOTOGRAPHY

WOLFGANG BUSCHITZKY: Major retrospective for Austrian photographer now resident in GB which included wonderful documentary pictures of London's east and during the 1930s and 40s. Camden Arts Centre, Arkwright Rd, London, NW1 (01-435 2643) until July 10.

ROGER MAYNE - STREET PHOTOGRAPHY: This glorious touring exhibition continues; life on a London street from 1956 to 1961 observed with humour and emotion. Dorset County Museum, Dorchester, Dorset (0305 62735) until July 9.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

Continued from facing page

SATURDAY

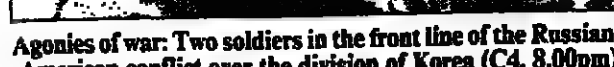
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SUNDAY

CHOICE

P.W.

Peter Waymark



Echoes of Spycatcher: Ray McNally gives an accomplished performance as a Labour PM faced with betrayal (C4, 9.15pm)

● A cynic might say that since it deals with the return of a hard-left Labour Government with a landslide majority, *Very British Coup* (Channel 4, 9.15pm) must be fantasy, but like the Warner Brothers movies of the Thirties it is torn from the headlines. Adapted by Alan Plater from the novel by the Labour MP Chris Mullin, its central theme echoes the *Spycatcher* allegations of attempts to destabilize the Government of Harold Wilson. The new PM, Harry Perkins, is a streetwise Sheffield steelworker who is determined to rid Britain of America's nuclear bases and

5 TONYA KILGORE,
7-11-82

Episode 11, 9.30.
Season 7 Tales. First generation Asian immigrants.

0.00 The World This Week.
Reports on the economic summit in Toronto and the Opec summit held in Vienna; and the drugs problem in the United States — why it's a major election issue.

1.00 Network 7 Includes items on adoption and bullfighting. **1.00**
Year 1941, b/w) Top music series (r). **2.00** Lost in Space (b/w). Vintage science fiction serial.

2.55 Film: Women of the Year (1941, b/w) starring Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn. Comedy about the first time journalists who continue to argue even after they are married. Directed by George Stevens.

5.05 News summary and weather.

5.10 Film: One Week (1920, b/w) starring Buster Keaton. Comedy about the first seven days of a marriage. Directed by Buster Keaton and Eddie Cline.

5.30 The "Narnode" Sale.
What went on behind the scenes when the AI Fayed brothers were talking over the House of Commons group.

6.15 Rowing. The Leyland Daf Power Sprint.

7.15 The Storyteller. The Three Ravens — a European folk tale starring John Hurt. (Cracile)

7.45 Dance on Four Feet. A work set beneath the streets of London, choreographed by Darsheen Singh Bhullar.

8.15 People to People. Dockers. Archive footage and reminiscences covering the lot of the British docker from the 1880s to the 1980s.

9.15 A Very British Coup. (see Choice)

10.15 The National Health (1973) starring Wynne Evans and Donald Sinden. A black comedy highlighting the inadequacies of the National Health Service. Directed by Jack Gold.

12.05am Film: Omar Gaddafi (1977) starring Boualem Ben Ali as a young man living with his parents in cramped quarters in Algiers who dreams of better things. Directed by Merzak Alouches. English subtitles. Ends at 1.50.

Haydn's Quartet
Op 76 No 4 (Sun)
Schubert's Quartet

Schubert's
minor (D 818), includes 5.00
Interval reading

5.50 Luis Songs by Campion
and Dowland: Stephen
Vesco (baritone) and
Nigel North (tute)

6.15 Isles Apart: John Keay
examines the dance and
music culture of the
Philippines

7.00 French National
Orchestra: Lorrin Mazzoli
conducts Debussy
(Prélude à l'après-midi d'un
faune); Lalo (Symphonie
espagnole, Op 21); and
Debussy (La Mer. With
Raphael Elie (violin))

8.25 The Living Poets: Irish
poet Eavan Boland reads a
selection of her work

9.45 Schubert: Martin Roscoe
(piano) plays Six Sonatas
Mozart (D 780) and
Fantasia in C (D 760)
(Wanderer)

9.35 Northern Sinfonia:
Silvestri Verga conducts
Mozart (Overture to Così
fan tutte); John Caskin
(Erin); and Haydn
(Symphony No 58 in E flat)

10.30 Musical Evenings:
from the Chapel of Magdalen
College, Oxford

11.30 Performance to Dream:
Works by Elgar, Henry
Lukas, Schumann,
Mozart, and Prokofiev

12.00 News 12.00am Close

Christopher Ball, Rev

9.00 News; The Hu
Titchmarsh m

hunters and discovers the remarkable stories behind the collections
 9.15 The Natural History Programme (1-9.50) Weather
 10.00 News
 10.15 With Passport and Passport Seven true adventure stories compiled and written by Julia Keay. Gertrude Bell's Arabian travels before the First World War (s)
 11.00 Committee: News from Parliament's committees
 11.30 Seeds of Faith: Lorraine Worsley talks to Christians of different ages (3) Middle Age (s) 12.00 News (12.2.2) Weather 12.30 Sports VHF 12.30 (except 7.50)
 9.00am Open University 7.50 Maths into the 90s 7.50 Foreground Battles and Rearguard Action 7.40 Technology: Recycling 1.55-2.05pm Programme News 4.55-5.00 Options 5.00 Community Matters 5.30 Education Matters 5.00 Modern European Authors: Manuel Vazquez Montalban 5.30 Euro magazine - Francis

MARKETS	THE POUND
FT 30 Share 1472.6 (-9.0)	US dollar 1.7825 (-0.0040)
FT-SE 100 1860.1 (-11.8)	W German mark 3.1247 (-0.0061)
USM (Datastream) 158.45 (-0.36)	Trade-weighted 76.2 (-0.1)

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

Brookwood rejects fund link

Brookwood Asset Management, the Gibraltar-based gilt fund manager, run by Dr Peter Naylor, a former senior executive in the failed Barlow Clowes group, last night moved to distance itself from the collapsed investment firm.

In a statement issued in Gibraltar Brookwood rejects suggestions that "its affairs or the conduct of those affairs is in any way similar to the alleged situation at Barlow Clowes".

Authorities in Gibraltar are believed to be concerned that the Capital and Income Preservation Plan, marketed by Brookwood, although emphasizing its reliance on gilts, might still allow for investment elsewhere.

However Brookwood said: "Whilst authorized to deal in UK gilts, government bonds, sterling denominated bonds, Eurobonds, fixed interest securities, and currencies, in the case of the Capital and Income Preservation Plan, investments are limited to trading in British Government securities only."

Family money, page 31

28% for BAT

BAT Industries has secured 28.2 per cent of the equity of Farmers Group, the Los Angeles insurance company for which it is bidding \$4.5 billion (£2.5 billion). BAT's tender offer of \$63 a share has been extended until July 14.

STOCK MARKETS

New York	2092.46 (-1.76)
Dow Jones	2092.46 (-1.76)
Nikkei Average	28342.46 (+185.14)
Hong Kong	2718.02 (+24.82)
Amsterdam Gen	265.4 (-2.5)
Sydney AO	1800.9 (+1.3)
Frankfurt	1000.00 (-0.00)
Commerzbank	Closed
Generale	4821.6 (+3.8)
Paribas	4821.6 (+3.8)
Zurich SGA Gen	498.8 (-7.5)
FT-30 Share	1472.6 (-9.0)
FT-100	1860.1 (-11.8)
FT Gold Mines	215.5 (-5.7)
FT Fixed Interest	98.38 (-0.10)
FT Govt Securities	98.38 (-0.10)
Recent Issues	Page 28
Closing prices	Page 28

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
GI Lovell	142 1/2p (+18p)
Boddington	175 1/2p (+10p)
Invergordon Dist	3000 (+140)
Wiggins	243 1/2p (+13p)
Mitel	139 1/2p (+15p)
Enterprise	482 1/2p (+13p)
Ranger	342 1/2p (+15p)
UK Land	647 1/2p (+13p)
H Mackay	290p (+10p)
Redmans 'B'	44 1/2p (+12p)
Pharmacia	307 1/2p (+11p)
FALLS:	
Glaxo	949p (-18p)
Hardanger	730p (-10p)
Hammerman	307 1/2p (-11p)
Vicplant	742 1/2p (-15p)
Int Thomson	635p (-20p)
WH Smith 'A'	285p (-10p)
Saatchi & Saatchi	310p (-10p)
GFE	327 1/2p (-20p)
Wills Faber	282 1/2p (-10p)
Closing prices	Page 28
Share prices	Page 28

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Rate	8 1/4%
3-month interbank	8 1/4%
3-month eligible bills	8 1/4-8 1/2%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	9%
Federal Funds	7 1/4%
3-month Treasury	8.38-8.37%
30-year bonds	10 1/2-10 1/4%

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£/\$ 1.7825	£/\$ 1.7825
£/DM 1.7535	£/DM 1.7535
£/Sfr 2.5989	£/Sfr 2.5989
£/FFr 10.5417	£/FFr 10.5417
£/Yen 224.24	£/Yen 224.24
£/Index 76.2	£/Index 76.2
ECU 0.665377	SDR 0.755010

GOLD

London Fixing:	
AM \$49.80 pm \$49.25	
close \$450.00-450.50	(£252.50-253.00)
New York:	
Comex \$451.00-451.50	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (July) pm \$15.45bbl (\$15.70)	
© Deutsche Institut trading prices	

THE TIMES STOCK WATCH

0898 141 141

● Market news on Stockwatch yesterday included: Saatchi & Saatchi (01832) dropped 33p after announcing a rights issue; expansion prospects put 11p on Pleasurama (02209); Chloride (02596), with finals as expected, fell 4p.

● Recent additions include: Scottish Ice Rink 03096; Arthur Shaw 03092; Isopad International 03067; Domestic and General Group 03075; Young Group 03105.

● Calls charged at 5p for 8 seconds peak and 12 seconds off peak.

● Details, page 33.

Inflation rise puts pressure on base rates

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Britain's rate of inflation rose to 4.2 per cent last month and is set to head towards 5 per cent over the summer.

The rise in the inflation rate taken with other indicators this week pointing to stronger inflationary pressures in the economy, has hardened the view in the City that the Chancellor will be forced to raise interest rates again.

The Bank of England resisted money market pressures for a rise in rates yesterday, but the markets are clearly looking for an increase in rates to 9 per cent from the present 8.5 per cent level. The three-month interbank rate closed at 9.8 per cent.

However, the strength of sterling — itself partly due to the expectation that interest rates in Britain have to rise further — still presents a constraint on the Bank.

The Bundesbank is expected to allow a modest increase in West German interest rates on Tuesday, with its 28-day securities repurchase operation. Should sterling weaken in response, base rates will be raised.

The pound, which was weak yesterday morning after the publication of poor first quarter balance of payments figures on Thursday, gained some support from the Chancellor's remarks in a BBC Radio interview. He ruled out a devaluation of sterling to help industry compete in world markets.

It closed above its lows for the day, but more than half a pence down at DM3.1247 and 40 points lower at \$1.7825. The sterling index slipped by 0.1 points to 76.2.

The retail price index for May was 106.2 (Jan 1987 = 100), an increase of 0.4 per cent on the April level of 105.8, and 4.2 per cent higher than in May last year.

This compared with a rate of 3.9 per cent in April. It was the third successive increase from the low point of 3.3 per cent in January and February.

A combination of low monthly increases in the index last summer and price rises in the pipeline — including bread and petrol — will push the inflation rate above 4.5 per cent in the next few weeks. Should base rates rise and the building societies lift mortgage rates in response, the inflation rate could hit 5 per cent or more.

There were higher prices for summer clothing and some foods last month, together with remaining excise duty increases on cigarettes, higher fares and price rises across a range of goods and services. This was partly offset by the half-point reduction in mortgage rates from May 1.

Unit labour costs, perhaps the best measure of industry's competitiveness, are on a higher trend. Unit wage and salary costs in manufacturing in the three months to April were 3.2 per cent up on a year earlier, the biggest rise for nearly two years, despite the April jump in manufacturing output.

"The domestic economy is showing all sorts of signs of stress," said Mr Bill Martin, chief UK economist at Phillips & Drew, the broker. "As you would expect, inflation is coming through in the non-traded goods sector. It is an increasingly untenable position."

He expects base rates to rise to 9 per cent next week, and to 10 per cent by the year-end.

Output tops 1979 peaks

By Our Economics Correspondent

Manufacturing output rose sharply in April, topping 1979 peaks for the first time, but its rate of growth is still officially believed to be slowing.

Manufacturing output rose 1.8 per cent in April, and the index, at 114.8 (1980 = 100), topped the June 1979 level of 114.0 and was the highest since August 1974. A further rise of about 2 per cent will be required to establish another record.

But the April jump in output was erratic, officials said, with three-quarters of it due to a sharp rise in output — up 8.5 per cent in a single month — in the electrical and instrument engineering industry.

Officials also said the seasonal adjustment factors for the manufacturing output series this year may be suspect. Particular doubt is cast on the very low figure for manufacturing output in February.

In the three months to April, output was 0.2 per cent down on the previous quarter and 5.1 per cent up on a year earlier. Officials said manufacturing was growing at an underlying 5 per cent rate, against 6.5 per cent or more in the second half of last year.

Growth in industrial production as a whole, depressed by low energy output, is less strong. The index of industrial production rose by 1.5 per cent in April, mainly because of the strong manufacturing result. But in the latest three months it was down by 0.5 per cent, and only 2.5 per cent up on a year earlier.

Edenderry in Camden Group deal

Edenderry, the Irish leisure group whose shares are quoted in London as well as Dublin, has agreed a £9.5 million bid for Camden Group, the private British discotheque company, which owns the Camden Palace in North London.

Edenderry is offering 95p a share on the basis of 147 new shares for every 100 Camden shares or 83p per share in cash. The bid has been recommended by Camden's board and has been accepted by 73.7 per cent of the shareholders.

Edenderry is to change its name to European Leisure to reflect its aspirations to expand further.

Camden has five discotheques in addition to the Camden Palace. In the year to the end of last June, the group made £629,000 pretax profit on £4.2 million sales.

Edenderry's move into the leisure sector gained momentum earlier this year with the acquisition of Lanton Leisure in March.

Edenderry's pretax profits were IRE£115,000 (£99,138) in the year to end-June 1987 on a turnover of IRE£4.1 million.

UK wins \$900m Jakarta contract

A multi-million pound contract to build a new oil refinery in Indonesia has been finalized after a visit by Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Energy Secretary, to Jakarta.

The contract has been won by Foster Wheeler UK, which will build and manage a 100,000 barrel a day refinery for Pertamina, the Indonesian state oil company.

The products produced by the new refinery will be marketed by BP, which has its own refinery and marketing operation in Singapore, and already has a large share of the product market in Indonesia.

The bulk of the petrol, fuel oil, lubricating oil and gas produced by the new refinery will probably be sold in Japan.

Finance for the project is being provided by Mitsui, the Japanese industrial and financial conglomerate.

The British Government is providing guarantees for a third of the \$900 million (£505 million) cost of the project. Work is due to start soon and production from the new refinery will start in 1992.

Indonesia has a refining capacity of about 900,000 bpd, but the new refinery will incorporate the latest technology and produce a full range of oil products, including liquefied natural gas, which it already produces in large quantities for the Japanese market.

The project is part of Indonesia's plan to ultimately convert all its crude oil within the country and export only added-value oil products.



Parkinson: visit to Indonesia

Gas group makes £64.4m



Piped profits: David Mitchell of Calor yesterday (Photograph: Beresford Hodge)

Calor holds steady despite mildest winter in 20 years

Calor Group, the bottled gas company, managed to hold pretax profits steady despite one of the mildest winters for 20 years after the 1986-87 winter proved to be one of the coldest on record.

Turnover slipped by 1 per cent last year to £350 million, leaving pretax profits virtually unchanged at £64.4 million against £64.5 million the previous year.

The company said the volume of gas sold was only slightly lower last winter than in 1986 when the weather was much colder than the 20-year average.

Mr David Mitchell, the chief executive, said cylinder gas sales were steady, but that bulk sales — "piped-in" gas to serve central heating and cooking customers — were growing and now comprised more than half of sales. The leisure side, such as camping gas, for which Calor is still best known, accounted for under 5 per cent of the business.

Oil operations, which have been merged into Acre Oil, contributed £9.3 million.

As forecast at the time of the demerger, a 10.5p final dividend is being proposed, making 16p net in Calor's first full year as an independently listed company since being demerged from Imperial Continental Gas.

Mr Mitchell pointed out that in the two years since speculation first arose on the takeover and break-up of IC Gas, shareholders had received 900p of value, comprising 313p a share for Contibel, IC Gas's Belgian investments, 220p a share for Acre Oil, its exploration interests, and a Calor gas share worth 365p at yesterday's closing price. IC Gas shares were quoted at 400p in June 1986.

Mr Mitchell said the dividend was twice covered by earnings, and in future, that cover could come down, possibly as far as 1.75. "Twice covered will be the maximum," he said.

SHV, the Dutch holding company, owns 40.3 per cent of Calor. It has said it will increase its stake, but the company cannot buy more than 2 per cent in any one year.

Saatchi makes £176.5m cash call

By Cliff Feltham

Saatchi & Saatchi, the world's largest advertising agency, launched a £176.5 million convertible rights issue yesterday to help pay for a United States consultancy.

The issue is tailored towards European investors and reflects the London stock market's nervous attitude towards Saatchi & Saatchi shares which have slumped from a peak of more than £9. News of the cash call sent the 34p lower yesterday to 36p.

Saatchi is paying just over £50 million for Gartner, an information technology consultancy, which made £2 million pretax profits last year and is expected to make almost £4 million this year. So far 30 per cent of Gartner holders have backed the £22.50 a share offer.

The balance of the cash from the rights issue is likely to be used to pay for further expansion. But while London analysts liked the acquisition, they had anxieties over possible earnings dilution facing Saatchi over the next year or so, but a Saatchi spokesman rejected this, pointing to Gartner's growth prospects.

But Saatchi conceded that Warburg, its merchant bankers, had structured the rights issue towards Europe. "We live in the real world so we have to face the fact that UK investors might not welcome a rights issue of ordinary shares with open arms," he said.

Ever since a £400 million cash call to pay for the acquisition of the Ted Bates advertising agency, the company's shares have been out of favour.

The financing arrangements for Gartner involve a 15-year convertible with a 6.75 per cent coupon. The bonds are convertible into ordinary shares from October 1989, at a price of 441p, a 10 per cent premium over yesterday's closing price.

The terms are one preference share for each ordinary; 18.71 preference for every 100 convertible preference; and 24.65 preference for every £100 of loan stock.

Losses of £29m at NSM

By Alison Eadie

NSM, the company which emerged from the rationalization of the former Burnett & Hallamshire, showed a pretax loss of £29 million in the year to April 5, against a loss the previous year of £15.5 million.

The results included a £27.1 million deficit covering the losses of discontinued businesses, rationalization costs and write-offs. NSM has written off £16.4 million and brought down the value of businesses in the balance sheet to levels it believes are more realistic.

The former problem areas of Californian property, a 49 per cent interest in Rand London, a South African coal mining company, and a half share in MV Hallam Venture, a dry bulk carrier, have all been brought under control.

Mr David McErlain, the chief executive, said the group was now on a sound financial footing and in position to grow using coal mining as its base. The £52 million rights issue had brought borrowings down to £35 million.

Berkeley builds £17m profit

By Cliff Feltham

Britain's businessmen are confident about the future — and backing their optimism by ordering luxury homes.

The up-market housebuilder, Berkeley Group, which yesterday announced record profits, says it is selling homes as fast as it can find the land on which to build them.

The managing director, Mr Tony Pidgley, said: "Our biggest customer is the local businessman who is quite prepared to spend a large amount on an expensive home because his own company is prospering and he is confident about the future."

Last year Berkeley made pretax profits of £17.69 million, a jump of 107 per cent. Sales rose by 74 per cent to £92 million. Berkeley sold 471 homes at an average of £214,500. The year before it sold 331 units at £163,000 each.

The company specializes in finding small plots in high class residential areas. A quarter of its homes were on one-unit plots.

Mr Pidgley said: "When the stock market crashed we wondered what might happen. But we did not lose one order."

He is now expanding the company from the South East into East Anglia and the south Midlands and analysts are looking for at least £23 million profits for the current year. For the year just ended Berkeley is paying a final dividend of 2.5p a share making a total of 3.5p, compared with 2.5p

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Thatcher and Delors heading for 'fraught' encounter

Rover-BaE merger faces a bumpy ride

From Richard Owen, Brussels

Mrs Thatcher and M Jacques Delors, the president of the European Commission, are heading for a "fraught" meeting on the Rover-British Aerospace merger during the Western economic summit beginning tomorrow in Toronto, EEC officials said yesterday.

The meeting follows a letter from the Prime Minister to M Delors asking the commission to allow the Rover deal to go ahead and urging Brussels to respond speedily, according to EEC sources.

EEC officials confirmed that one of the commission's options was a substantial cut in the proposed state aid to Rover to make it saleable to BAe.

Sources said a further Thatcher-Delors encounter would follow at the EEC summit in Hanover later this month if the Toronto meeting proved "unproductive." One EEC source said "negotiations are bogged down" and things "do not look good."

Officials said Lord Young of Graffham, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, had made a series of secret visits to Brussels and Strasbourg to press for urgent action by the commission. The most recent was Lord Young's unpublicized visit to the European Parliament in Strasbourg on Wednesday to see Mr Peter Sutherland, the EEC commissioner for competition policy.

Pressed to explain these secret trips, an EEC spokesman said they were part of the "normal consultation process" under which the Government was informing the commission of the details of the proposed deal. But officials indicated that Brussels' blessing for the merger was proving "far from automatic," and the

Reagan's aim 27

Government was becoming increasingly alarmed.

Under the terms announced by Lord Young in March, the Government would write off Rover's debts and inject £800 million worth of investment into the ailing Rover Group, with British Aerospace buying the car company for only £150 million. This is openly regarded in Brussels as "a knockdown, bargain basement price."

Officials close to Mr Sutherland have voiced suspicion that the Government deliberately set the proposed cash injection at a high level, expecting a cut by the commission in the amount of permitted aid during the bargaining process. This was the pattern followed in earlier

rulings by Brussels on mergers involving Renault of France and Daf of The Netherlands (which bought the truck division of Leyland).

According to some reports, the commission is demanding that the Government cut its aid to Rover by between £200 million and £300 million.

The British Government is obviously under time constraints. "But that is its problem," one EEC official said. "Our interest is in fair competition in the EEC as well as the health of British industry."

Diplomats said the issue was complicated by the determination of Mr Sutherland to make merger control a prominent issue in the creation of a single European market in 1992, as well as by Mrs Thatcher's poor personal relations with M Delors.

The Prime Minister publicly "humiliated" M Delors during the London EEC summit in December 1986, and the commission president — who is expected to serve a further two years when his term expires in January — has never forgotten it. Sources also said Mr Sutherland, who has been dealing with the Rover question, was angered that Mrs Thatcher had gone over his head by appealing to M Delors.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

John Foster cash call to update production

John Foster & Son, the producer of quality mohair cloth and men's worsted suitings, is raising £2.66 million net by means of a one-for-four rights issue. The proceeds will fund a three-year investment programme to update its production facilities with new technology and to reduce borrowing.

The company plans to spend more than £1 million on weaving machines and other processing plant in the year to end-March 1989. Since the end of last year sales had remained buoyant, with existing spinning and weaving equipment used at full capacity, the company said. The capital investment programme would increase both its capacity and productivity, allowing Foster to keep pace with its growing order book. Cazenove and Co is the broker to the issue, which has been underwritten by County NatWest, the company's financial advisers.

Data storage profits go up

Security Archives (Holdings), the business data storage company which came to the Unlisted Securities Market via an offer for sale last October, made pretax profits in the year to end-March of £705,000, compared with £453,000 the previous year. The company had forecast profits of £655,000. The final dividend was 2.4p, as previously forecast by the company.

Vietnam deal for Shell

Shell and Petrofina, the Belgian oil company, are to spend \$16.5 million (£9.3 million) in the initial phase of an offshore oil exploration programme in Vietnam. Shell will have a two-thirds interest in the operation. It will involve seismic investigations, and the drilling of three wells in 15,000 square kilometres of the Hoa Binh covering three designated exploration blocks.

£6m Summer placing

Summer International, the former Summair Clothing which was renamed after City and Westminster Financial took management control, is raising £6.5 million by means of a placing of convertible preference shares with a full clawback arrangement.

The proceeds of the issue, which is fully underwritten, will be used to finance the acquisitions the group has made. These include a language school, a training and employment bureau and a graphics and cartoon production company. The preference shares will be made available to shareholders on the basis of 1.2 shares for every ordinary share held. Summer shares are suspended at 68p.

Dawson buys survey group

William Dawson, the international journal and book supplier, has announced an agreement with the shareholders of Reward Regional Surveys, the pay and cost surveyors, to acquire the business for £1.3 million in shares and cash. Reward produces the only regional cost-of-living survey for Britain. Dawson shareholders will meet on July 19 to approve the deal.

Record for airport

Manchester Airport made record pretax profits of £30.49 million in the 1987-88 financial year, compared with £19.48 million in the previous year. A dividend of 6.58p (4.85p) per share is to be paid to the 10 local authority shareholders.

The airport board has asked Egloworth Benson, the merchant bank, to recommend the best way of funding the airport's second passenger terminal, which is expected to cost more than £200 million. The move follows the restriction by the Civil Aviation Authority of planned airport charges to customers during the next five years. The charge level, fixed at the rate of inflation minus 1 per cent, is expected to cost the airport millions of pounds in lost revenue by 1993.

Racal boosted by Vodafone hopes

Racal Electronics, the high-technology group built by the chairman, Sir Ernest Harrison, was one of the few bright spots yesterday, closing 7p higher at 323p on a turnover of 6.5 million shares.

Investors were chasing the shares higher ahead of the new account on Monday, on hopes that further details of the group's proposed flotation of the Vodafone telecommunications business will be revealed to coincide with its full-year figures on June 28.

Since Warburg Securities, the broker, put the cat among the pigeons early this month by putting a value of £2.5 billion, or 394p per share, on Vodafone, the shares have drifted lower.

Warburg was not the first securities house to put a high valuation on Vodafone. Goldman Sachs, the New York securities house, had already marked the flotation price at £2 billion — way above the £1.2 billion to £1.5 billion price analysts had initially put on the deal when Racal first made its announcement.

Speculators are now hoping that the shares will enjoy a run-up to the flotation which, it is hoped, will be about the time of the group's annual meeting in mid-August.

James Capel, the broker, is going for pretax profits of £136 million for the year against £100.3 million last time.

Elsewhere, share prices lost ground on inflation and interest rate worries, but managed to close above their lowest levels of the day. The FT-SE 100 share index ended the day 11.8 points down at 1,850.1, having been 23.1 points lower at its worst.

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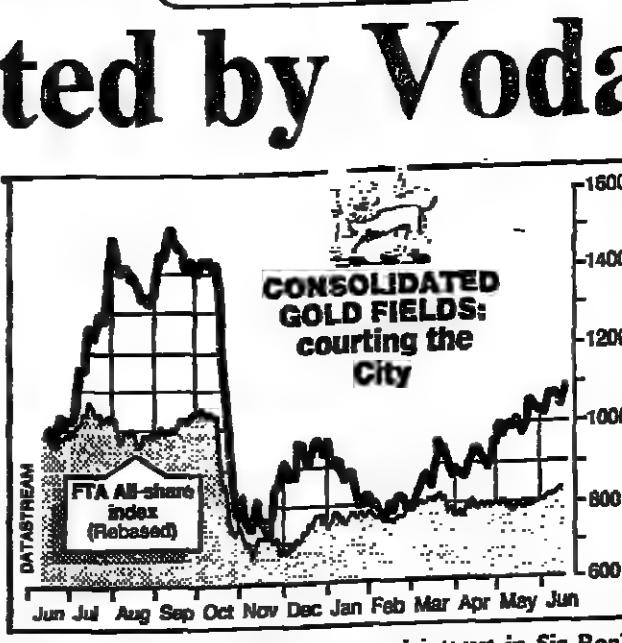
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STOCK MARKET



company is on the acquisition trail.

The group is said to have bid Sir Ron Brierley, the New Zealand entrepreneur, NZ\$2.45 a share for his 35 per cent stake in NZL, the big insurance group, and to be keen to make an offer of £650 million for the entire company.

Elders IXL, the Australian group headed by Mr John Elliott, and the National Mutual Group have also expressed interest in Sir Ron's stake — but GA is tipped to pip them at the post.

Dealers are worried that GA may have to announce a sizeable rights issue to fund any expansion plans.

Commercial Union, the perennial takeover favourite in the composite sector, was unchanged at 403.5p, despite the news that Mr John Spalvin's Adelaide Steamship had increased its stake in

the company to just above 7 per cent.

More than 3 million shares changed hands as some dealers took the view that Mr Spalvin is an unlikely bidder, but is just "warehousing" the shares in the hope that another predator may appear.

Other companies in the sector also lost ground despite recent suggestions from County NatWest WoodMac that the whole sector was a bid target. GRE led 20p to 927.5p. Royal gave up 4p to 410p and Sun Alliance retreated 5p to 983p.

Tate & Lyle, the sugar producer, closed 1p lower at 808.5p, but Mr John Campbell believes that T&L is one of the best vehicles for earnings growth among the big food manufacturers.

The recent placing of Hilldown's 3.5 per cent stake in the company at 800p has removed a cloud that has been overhanging the group. Meanwhile, the company has been hedging against the dollar which may reassure those who have been worried by its exposure following the recent acquisition of Staley.

Mr Campbell says that the results are expected to show a dramatic turnaround from losses of £2.4 million to pretax profits of about £5.7 million as consumer spending on sportswear is booming.

Harris Queensway, Sir Philip Harris's beleaguered carpets-to-furniture retail chain, held steady at 161p as the market waited patiently for further bid developments.

Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster

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Nikkei soars 195 points to record close on brisk trade

(Reuters) — Share prices ended at a record close after brisk trade, but were down from the day's peak, brokers said.

The Nikkei average rose 195.14 points, or 0.69 per cent, to 28,342.46. It peaked at 28,394.72 in mid-afternoon. On Thursday it rose 53.80 to a record close.

Volume was 1.7 billion shares against Thursday's turnover of 1.4 billion.

Gas, pulp/paper, general manufacturing, non-ferrous metals, and services' shares rose while securities, telecommunications, electricals and non-life insurances fell.

Local buying was strong, brokers said, adding that institutional buyers from London and Australia contributed to the rally.

A surge of buying boosted shares in the early afternoon, but after hitting the intra-day high, share prices fluctuated in a narrow range until the close.

Brokers said that paper and pulp shares had particularly attracted investor interest after heavy buying of large capitals like steels in morning trade.

Brokers said speculation about the health of Emperor Hirohito, a change in emperors would mean that all dated items must be changed. The Japanese calendar is dated from the beginning of an emperor's reign.

Some large capital steels were under selling pressure on profit-taking in the morning session, but buyers returned later, brokers said.

There was also interest in commodity-related shares like non-ferrous metals and chemicals, because worldwide commodity prices were high.

Brokers said that investor confidence was high after Thursday's announcement of higher-than-expected Japanese gross national product figures, and reports that Japanese firms expect record profits for the year ending March 31, 1989.

Michael Clark and Geoffrey Foster

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Virgin Group selling 74 record shops to WH Smith for £23m

By Alison Eadie

Virgin, the music and communications group headed by Mr Richard Branson, is selling its 74 smaller record shops to WH Smith for £23 million. Smith will combine them with its Our Price chain, the country's largest retailer of recorded music, giving it a total of 275 stores.

The fate of the smaller Virgin stores has been in the balance for some months, as they were making insufficient returns and were too few to benefit from economies of scale. In the year to end-July, they made operating profits of only £89,000 on a turnover of about £40 million.

Virgin remains committed

to the megastore concept of large retail outlets selling an extensive music catalogue, videos, games and books. A new megastore recently opened in Sydney, and further stores are planned this year in Paris, Melbourne and Glasgow.

The proceeds of the sale will be used to reduce borrowings and invest in more megastores. Virgin's borrowings have risen to finance heavy investment in new ventures, notably a new American record company which has yet to break into profit.

Other investments include the development of television services in Los Angeles and London, and increased participation in Super Channel, the European satellite television service.

The smaller Virgin stores are predominantly in the Midlands, North of England and Scotland, whereas the Our Price stores are mainly in the South-east. WH Smith intends to keep all the locations and rename the stores within a month.

It is not taking on any of Virgin's regional or central costs, and expects to lift the acquired shops to the level of profitability of the Our Price stores. The acquisition will give WH Smith 22.5 per cent of the pre-recorded music market.

Stox has 'large sums' of assets

By Colin Narborough

The records of Stox Limited, the City commodity and futures trading firm put into the hands of the Official Receiver on Thursday, indicate that it has substantial sums with its bankers and brokers.

However, repayments will have to wait until a winding-up order is made, probably at the end of next month.

This was the main message in a letter sent yesterday to Stox's customers and clients by Mr Dipankar Ghosh, one of the two official managers appointed to help the provisional liquidator collect and protect the firm's assets.

A Stox employee, who declined to give his name, angrily denied that the firm, only trading since last October, had any liquidity problems or been involved in any impropriety. He said it was "squeaky clean" and all the client money is 100 per cent safe.

The High Court appointed the Official Receiver as provisional liquidator on Thursday under the Insolvency Act, in response to a request from the Securities and Investments Board.

The move followed a complaint from Stox's immediate watchdog, the Association of Futures Brokers and Dealers, which detected difficulties at Stox while considering its application for authorization.

The Dominion Street firm, which employs about 40 people, had been given interim authorization to trade by the AFBD, pending a full licence. Regulatory officials said the case appeared to be a fairly straightforward one of a young firm over-extending itself.

Mr Ghosh, a partner with Price Waterhouse, the accountant, said he was urgently investigating the firm's financial status, assisted by its staff and senior executives. The company's records indicated "substantial sums" were held with its banker and brokers.

He said Stox had about 300 clients who had placed funds in excess of £500,000, mainly on a discretionary basis, for investment in futures, options and commodities.

"At this early stage, I am not in a position to give you any further information and assurances that you will be repaid monies owing you by the company in full," he said.

Stox's managing director, Mr Ian Lee, aged 26, was not available for comment, but was understood to be assisting the investigation.

Golden chance for Weinstock to refurbish the GEC image

Higher interest rates, against a background of a deteriorating balance of payments, rising average earnings, diminishing growth in productivity in manufacturing, buoyant, credit-booster consumer spending and rising inflation, will test the stock market's nerve. This has shown signs of recovering, while remaining delicately exposed to the latest chilly statistical wind.

As an advocate of a more positive view of ordinary shares, and having seen the FT-SE index subsequently rise by almost 100 points, I do not believe investors should now lose their nerve.

We may not be in another bull market yet — more in a narrow range of 50 or 60 points on either side of 1,800 in terms of the FT-SE index and looking for 2,000 by the year-end — but even cash-hoarding fund managers must be feeling vulnerable. Returns from equity investments have been higher this year, and after their performance in the final quarter of 1987, they must fear another massive misjudgement.

As we saw this week, a rise in the dollar sends the American earners and dollar-related stocks such as Glaxo, Jaguar and ICI, instantly higher.

Those arguing for not being panicked out of a market that historically is not expensively rated are not whistling in the dark. The other side of rising inflation is the continuing high rate of growth in the leading economies, notably the Japanese where share prices have gone up 30 per cent this year, but also the American and our own. They also include the high level of takeover activity and an estimated 14 per cent rise in company earnings this year.

Related to these two factors is a new



element, which should, if nothing more, help to sustain the equity market during the next phase. This is the reduction from 60 per cent to 40 per cent in the top rate of income tax and the raising of the top capital gains tax rate from 30 per cent to 40 per cent.

These changes should have a marked effect on dividend policies as companies grasp the fact that from now on their shareholders will be less concerned, even indifferent, whether they receive their return in dividends or through capital appreciation. The impact of tax for them is the same.

It is true that most boards made up of salaried executives with very few shares do not like paying out in dividends more than they feel they decently must. They prefer to dispose of earnings in more "productive" ways.

This attitude is changing, not least because of the lurking danger of an unwanted bid and a corresponding need to build shareholder goodwill.

Furthermore, a progressively generous dividend policy may not prove an alternative to capital appreciation: it might raise the company's market capitalization, and its status, by making both company and directors more popular. And for a utility which operates under certain restraints, divi-

dends are an easier road to travel than capital appreciation of its shares.

I do not know why he did it, but the decision by Sir Denis Rooke, the chief of British Gas, to raise the company's dividend by 23 per cent is an admirable beginning.

The real test case among the March 31 year-end companies reporting in the next few weeks (they include Argyl, Rascal Electronics, Dowry and Ferranti, while interim dividends are due from the TSB Group, Granada, Reuters, Barclays Bank, ICI and BOC) is General Electric Company.

Over the past 12 months GEC shares have underperformed the FT Actuarial index by 27 per cent. No capital appreciation there, notwithstanding GEC's power to generate cash. Nor until the final dividend for 1986-87, which was increased by 31 per cent (net), did dividends flow abundantly from the Stanhope Gate treasury.

It would not surprise me if boardroom colleagues have plucked up their collective courage to press on Lord Weinstock, head of GEC, that dramatically higher dividends, given the neutrality of tax rates, is the route shareholders would prefer. It might also make him and GEC more popular among the institutions and raise the lowly status of the shares.

If the charm works, it would have advantages for him, as again a willing architect of change in the electrical and electronics industries, if only GEC shares were more highly rated relative to the much more expensive shares in companies he refuses to bid for because the price is "too high."

Chloride buys controlling stake in US battery firm

By Our City Staff

Chloride Group, the battery maker, disappointed the market with a 7 per cent increase in pretax profits to £18.2 million in the year to the end of March, on turnover 15 per cent ahead at £307.9 million. The shares fell 4p to 49p.

The total dividend was raised to 2p from 1.9p.

The group also announced it was spending \$12.5 million (£7 million) on a 51 per cent stake in Altus Corporation, a world leader in advanced lithium battery technology based in San Jose, California. Chloride has options to acquire the outstanding shares.

Mr Kent Price, Chloride's chief executive, said the acquisition gave the group a strong base from which to grow its industrial battery businesses in the important US market. Altus supplies primary and rechargeable systems to the defence and space industries, and makes small sealed lead acid batteries for industrial and consumer use.

Sir Michael Edwards, the chairman, said last year had been one of consolidation. Profits growth was held back by adverse exchange rates and an exceptionally mild winter in Europe, which led to low levels of demand for automotive replacement batteries. A drop in the tax charge to 38 per cent from 49 per cent helped boost earnings per share by 27.6 per cent to 3.7p.

Mr Price said there was too much automotive capacity in



Strong base for growth: Kent Price, of Chloride, yesterday

Europe, with 40 battery makers competing with each other. He expected a restructuring of the European industry.

Chloride has already attacked its cost base, closing its manufacturing operation in Denmark and consolidating its power supplies activities in Britain on one new manufacturing site. Productivity has

been boosted by the Dagenham, east London, plant producing the same number of batteries with 33 per cent fewer people.

The two electronics companies acquired last year — Powerline in Britain and a majority holding in Silectron in Italy — made positive contributions.

More acquisitions for Polly Peck

By Martin Waller

Polly Peck, the diversified trading and electronics group run by Mr Asil Nadir, has added two more fruit and vegetable companies — in the US and The Netherlands — to its agricultural division.

It is paying \$12 million (£6.6 million) for New York-based Prevor Marketing International, which made pretax profits of \$230,000 on sales of \$48.6 million in 1987.

Polly Peck is also buying Jas van den Brink Group, a Rotterdam importer which owns 100 greenhouses in Holland and West Germany. It is paying 33 million guilders

(£9.38 million) immediately for van den Brink, with another 27 million guilders maximum due, depending on profits during the next three years.

In addition, Polly Peck is paying a further consideration of \$7.99 million to the management of Capetronic Group, bought in October for \$35.4 million, in a deal which tripled the size of the consumer electronics division.

The three deals involve the issue of 6.19 million new Polly Peck shares, which will be placed with institutional investors.

New management benefits Renold

By Our City Staff

Renold, the engineering group which makes transmission equipment, gears and clutches, has disclosed pretax profits achieved under new management of £3.7 million in the year to April 2, against £100,000 last time.

A final dividend of 1p raises the total to 1.5p, from 1.3p.

The company had taken substantial reorganization costs, besides an extraordinary debit of £900,000 from a foundry closure, above the line, said Mr John Allan, the finance director.

A 5 per cent volume gain was masked by the small rise

in turnover to £131.5 million, from £128.4 million, after currency considerations. The same factor trimmed pretax profits by about £300,000.

But with 60 per cent of production abroad, the group had some protection against the high pound. About half of the British output is exported.

Interest charges were cut by £500,000 to £2,800,000, reflecting a 9 per cent gearing reduction to 57 per cent.

Mr Peter Frost, the chairman, said the short-term aim was to see a return on assets of 20 per cent, across all parts of the group.

yet undefined duties. La Générale said. Signor de Benedetti would only be able to prevent the appointment of a managing director, an established post within the group.

Signor de Benedetti said he had plans to reach an agreement with Indosuez over the management of La Générale, but would not say what they were. He will not be attending the annual meeting next week.

A simple majority of shareholders would be enough to ensure the appointment of an executive director with as

battle against Indosuez, the French group which is the majority shareholder in La Générale, a stage further. But although Signor de Benedetti controls 47 per cent of the Belgian group, he may not be able to block Mr de Carmoy's appointment.

A simple majority of shareholders would be enough to ensure the appointment of an executive director with as

Benedetti to fight Carmoy job plan

By Richard Thomson
Banking Correspondent

Signor Carlo de Benedetti, the Italian entrepreneur, has declared his opposition to the appointment of Mr Hervé de Carmoy, a former senior executive of Midland Bank, as executive director of Société Générale de Belgique, the Belgian industrial conglomerate.

Mr de Carmoy's appointment to the newly created job will be proposed at La Générale's annual meeting next Tuesday.

But Signor de Benedetti said yesterday that he was against the appointment. He would prefer to have an industrialist in the top executive position at La Générale rather than a banker.

His opposition takes his

Reagan seeks summit backing

From Bailey Morris, Washington

President Reagan leaves for the Toronto summit this weekend with the firm goal of achieving a harmonious meeting, which would be an endorsement of US leadership and of his own economic policies enacted during eight turbulent years in office.

US officials, in an unusually large number of preliminary briefings, said that Mr Reagan was determined that his last summit of Western heads of state would be free of strife, and of criticism of the sort which has simmered under the surface of prior summits.

The leaders of the Group of Seven nations are expected to endorse two documents, a political statement and a final economic communiqué, which will be upbeat in tone, glossing over the growing fear of inflation, rising interest rates, the battles over agricultural subsidies and the continued, large US budget and trade deficits.

There appeared to be unanimous agreement among the G7 nations that the global economy had weathered the October stock market crash better than anyone had expected, and that this was the message to send to financial markets which remained nervous.

On the political side, the US intends to push for a strong statement on terrorism, which would demonstrate the determination of the G7 nations to prevent airline hijackings, the taking of hostages, granting asylum to known terrorists and other infractions.

In spite of the strong worry about drought conditions in the US, which are the worst since the 1930s, Reagan Administration officials are determined to send the message that inflation remains under control, and that economic growth is strong as a result of the President's free market policies.

Analysts have estimated that food prices could rise by as much as 5 per cent in June alone because of the drought. Administration officials agreed with the statement of Mr James Baker, the Treasury Secretary, that it was premature to suggest that the drought would result in food prices rocketing sky high.

US officials were reluctant to endorse a broader programme of debt relief for the poorest nations in Africa of the size suggested by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and by President Mitterrand of France. This is one of the issues which could become contentious.

Mr Baker said in a pre-summit briefing that although the US would study the proposals by President Mitterrand to reduce by a third the debt of the poorest African countries, it was not likely to endorse it.

US officials are also determined to press for a strong endorsement of the Uruguay trade round talks under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), but without insisting on language urging for zero agricultural subsidies by 1992. European officials, who strongly oppose the US proposals, said reductions of this magnitude are politically impossible.

But Mr Alan Wallis, the State Department official who is one of the US team preparing the meeting, said agriculture remained to the US "as important if not more important an economic problem than there is in the world today".

In the pre-summit briefings, Administration officials have warned that if the GATT talks break down, then the US will begin negotiating bilateral trade agreements, similar to the US-Canada free trade agreement, that would serve its own interests. Mr Baker said such an agreement with Japan was possible, in a veiled warning to European officials.

Higher rates to test the markets

Markets, both in foreign exchanges and shares, are mesmerized by figures — even, or perhaps especially, by figures they know to be wrong. There is no important series of economic numbers coming out of Whitehall — and I suspect out of any government statistics machine anywhere in the world — that is not obscured by errors and omissions, fudged by "balancing items" often running into billions, and subsequently revised almost beyond recognition.

Ted Heath was helped over the winning line in the 1970 general election by an appalling set of monthly trade figures released three days before polling. The revised figures turned out to be not nearly as bad.

Governments, while not being excused from responsibility for improving the quality of their statistics, have to be guided by them; the markets, which know less than governments, add their own twist by producing a huge array of forecasts, or guesstimates, and using them to gauge the signifi-

cance and market implications of official figures they know to be inaccurate.

Thus on Tuesday the United States government released eagerly awaited trade figures for April, reverting incidentally to the practice of issuing seasonally adjusted as well as simple raw data. The unadjusted deficit, which the pundits in advance had put at about \$12 billion, turned out to be \$9.78 billion (£5.5 billion).

Elation knew no bounds. Foreign exchange, stock and bond markets hailed the April deficit as conclusive, well almost conclusive, evidence that the trade deficit was truly yielding to treatment.

Devaluing the dollar was really working, sending up US exports and bringing down imports. The celebrations lasted two days, mainly because other countries are looking to take advantage of the improvement in the dollar's fortunes to calm their own concerns.

The plain truth is that three countries

of the Group of Seven, which happens to be meeting in Toronto this weekend, are keen to raise interest rates.

West Germany, because of the weakness of the mark, and Japan because of its astonishing rate of economic growth (an annual 11.3 per cent, after allowing for inflation, in the first three months of this year).

Britain's reasons are a rate of growth that on the basis of figures released on Thursday (revised, of course) for the first three months of the year, promises, or threatens, a balance of payments deficit for the year in excess of £11 billion. The Treasury forecast at the time of the Budget was £4 billion.

The concern common to all three countries is rising inflation. In this situation, and given a more robust dollar, it is all Lombard Street to a China orange that interest rates internationally are going up.

Higher bank base rates, at present 8.5 per cent, would probably mean higher mortgage rates.

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FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Sterling index compared with 1875 was down at 76.2 (day's range 76.0-76.2).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES OTHER Sterling RATES

Market rates for June 17				Argentina auster ¹			
Range	Close	1 month	3 month	16.085-18.135			
New Yrk	1.7785-1.7840	1.7820-1.7830	0.05-0.03p	0.40-0.41p			
Montl	2.1564-2.1640	2.1507-2.1537	0.11-0.31p	0.41-0.39p			
Amsterd	3.4891-3.5145	3.5105-3.5145	1-1/2p	4 1/2-5 1/2p			
Brussels	3.48-3.54	3.52-3.54	1-1/2p	4 1/2-5 1/2p			
Copenhag	11.8777-11.9089	11.8973-11.9089	1-1/2p	4 1/2-5 1/2p			
Frankf	1.1161-1.1175	1.1161-1.1175	1-1/2p	4 1/2-5 1/2p			
Frankf	3.1135-3.1277	3.1242-3.1277	1-1/2p	4 1/2-5 1/2p			
Lisbon	253.47-255.18	254.11-255.18	85-94p	181-255p			
Madrid	255.45-256.55	256.18-256.55	18-55p	1-1/2p			
Milan	2613.38-2622.18	2617.97-2622.38	3-5c	7-12c			
Osaka	3.3449-11.3506	3.3323-11.3506	4-5 1/2c	11-12 1/2c			
Paris	10.5101-10.5435	10.5317-10.5425	1-1/2p	1-1/2p			
Stockholm	10.2774-10.2813	10.2690-10.2813	1 1/2-2 1/2p	3-4 1/2p			
Tokyo	223.45-224.45	224.18-224.45	1-1/2p	3-4 1/2p			
Zurich	2.5680-2.5983	2.5717-2.5983	8-9 1/2p	27 1/2-30p			
Zurich	2.5680-2.5983	2.5955-2.5987	1 1/4-1 1/2p	3 1/4-3 1/2p			

Percent = p. Discount = c.

Argentine auster¹ = 16.085-18.135
 Australia dollar = 2.1907-2.1934
 Bahrain dirham = 0.5080-0.5093
 Brazil cruzeiro = 315.34-315.75
 Guyana pound = 0.8175-0.8275
 Finland marka = 7.2575-7.2675
 Greece drachma = 245.50-254.75
 Hong Kong dollar = 18.9000-18.9100
 Indian rupee = 46.50-46.75
 Kuwait dirham KO = 0.6150-0.6190
 Malaysia ringgit = 4.4000-4.4090
 Mexico peso = 16.085-18.135
 New Zealand dollar = 2.4202-2.4270
 Saudi Arabia riyal = 0.6000-0.6090
 Singapore dollar = 3.6107-3.6145
 South Africa rand (Rm) = 5.2715-5.2805
 S' Africa rand (Rm) = 4.0953-4.0977
 U.S. dollar = 0.5125-0.5225
 U.S. dollar = 0.5125-0.5225

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.5306-1.5380	Denmark	6.9560-6.9700	Italy	1900.5-1901.5
Japan	2.0220-2.0270	W Germany	1.7595-1.7545	Belgium (Com)	38.62-38.87
Malaysia	2.6775-2.5785	Switzerland	1.4580-1.4570	Hong Kong	7.9020-7.9030
Netherlands	1.6170-1.6200	Netherlands	1.6170-1.6200	India	46.50-46.75
Canada	1.2110-1.2140	France	5.9100-5.9130	Spain	116.75-116.95
Sweden	6.0516-6.0585	Japan	167.77-168.87	Austria	12.80-12.94
Norway	6.5915-6.5955				

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank and East.

MONEY MARKETS

Sterling Rates %				EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %			
Overnight	1 m	3 m	6 m	Currency	7 day	1 m	3 m
Overnight (Discount %)	7 1/2	7 1/2	7 1/2	7 1/2	7 1/2	7 1/2	7 1/2
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
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3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
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3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
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3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
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3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
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3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
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1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
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6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
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3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
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3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
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3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
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3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
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3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
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3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
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3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
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3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
3 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
6 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			
1 m	8 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2			

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Open		Open							
Month	High	Low	Close	Vol	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
Three Month Sterling									
Mar 92	90.18	90.22	90.27	92.54	US Treasury Bond				
Apr 92	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Dec 91	85-15	85-15	85-07	85-19
May 92	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jan 92	87-04	87-04	86-11	86-11
Jun 92	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Feb 92	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jul 92	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Mar 92	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Aug 92	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Apr 92	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Sep 92	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	May 92	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Oct 92	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jun 92	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Nov 92	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jul 92	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Dec 92	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Aug 92	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jan 93	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Sep 92	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Feb 93	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Oct 92	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Mar 93	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Nov 92	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Apr 93	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Dec 92	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
May 93	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jan 93	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jun 93	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Feb 93	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jul 93	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Mar 93	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Aug 93	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Apr 93	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Sep 93	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	May 93	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Oct 93	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jun 93	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Nov 93	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jul 93	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Dec 93	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Aug 93	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jan 94	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Sep 93	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Feb 94	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Oct 93	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Mar 94	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Nov 93	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Apr 94	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Dec 93	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
May 94	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jan 94	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jun 94	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Feb 94	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jul 94	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Mar 94	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Aug 94	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Apr 94	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Sep 94	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	May 94	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Oct 94	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jun 94	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Nov 94	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jul 94	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Dec 94	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Aug 94	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jan 95	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Sep 94	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Feb 95	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Oct 94	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Mar 95	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Nov 94	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Apr 95	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Dec 94	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
May 95	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jan 95	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jun 95	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Feb 95	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jul 95	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Mar 95	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Aug 95	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Apr 95	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Sep 95	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	May 95	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Oct 95	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jun 95	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Nov 95	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jul 95	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Dec 95	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Aug 95	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jan 96	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Sep 95	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Feb 96	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Oct 95	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Mar 96	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Nov 95	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Apr 96	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Dec 95	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
May 96	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jan 96	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jun 96	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Feb 96	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jul 96	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Mar 96	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Aug 96	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Apr 96	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Sep 96	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	May 96	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Oct 96	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jun 96	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Nov 96	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jul 96	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Dec 96	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Aug 96	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jan 97	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Sep 96	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Feb 97	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Oct 96	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Mar 97	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Nov 96	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Apr 97	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Dec 96	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
May 97	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jan 97	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jun 97	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Feb 97	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jul 97	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Mar 97	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Aug 97	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Apr 97	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Sep 97	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	May 97	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Oct 97	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jun 97	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Nov 97	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jul 97	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Dec 97	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Aug 97	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jan 98	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Sep 97	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Feb 98	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Oct 97	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Mar 98	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Nov 97	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Apr 98	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Dec 97	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
May 98	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jan 98	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jun 98	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Feb 98	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jul 98	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Mar 98	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Aug 98	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Apr 98	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Sep 98	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	May 98	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Oct 98	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jun 98	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Nov 98	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jul 98	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Dec 98	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Aug 98	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jan 99	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Sep 98	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Feb 99	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Oct 98	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Mar 99	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Nov 98	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Apr 99	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Dec 98	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
May 99	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jan 99	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jun 99	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Feb 99	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jul 99	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Mar 99	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Aug 99	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Apr 99	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Sep 99	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	May 99	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Oct 99	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jun 99	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Nov 99	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jul 99	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Dec 99	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Aug 99	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jan 00	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Sep 99	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Feb 00	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Oct 99	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Mar 00	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Nov 99	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Apr 00	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Dec 99	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
May 00	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jan 00	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jun 00	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Feb 00	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jul 00	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Mar 00	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Aug 00	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Apr 00	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Sep 00	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	May 00	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Oct 00	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jun 00	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Nov 00	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jul 00	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Dec 00	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Aug 00	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jan 01	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Sep 00	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Feb 01	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Oct 00	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Mar 01	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Nov 00	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Apr 01	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Dec 00	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
May 01	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jan 01	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jun 01	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Feb 01	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Jul 01	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Mar 01	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Aug 01	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Apr 01	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Sep 01	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	May 01	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Oct 01	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jun 01	86-20	86-20	85-11	85-11
Nov 01	90.18	90.27	90.27	90.28	Jul 0				

Portfolio

PLUS NEW

Accumulator

From your Portfolio gold card check your share price movements, on this page only. Add these prices to your running total for the week and check this against the weekly dividend figure. You have it matches or better this figure, you have won outright or a share of the total weekly or accumulator prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Price	Div	Yield
1	Asa New Z	Bank/Discount	100	10	10%
2	HK Shanghai	Bank/Discount	100	10	10%
3	Warburg SG	Bank/Discount	100	10	10%
4	Kleinwort Benson	Bank/Discount	100	10	10%
5	Rubert	Bank/Discount	100	10	10%
6	Bugbridge Brick	Building/Roads	100	10	10%
7	Hewson-Stuart	Building/Roads	100	10	10%
8	Trent	Building/Roads	100	10	10%
9	Taylor Woodrow	Building/Roads	100	10	10%
10	Nabro Gp	Industrials L-R	100	10	10%
11	Broken Hill	Industrials A-D	100	10	10%
12	Dover & Newman	Industrials A-D	100	10	10%
13	Bilston (U)	Industrials A-D	100	10	10%
14	ADT (sa)	Industrials A-D	100	10	10%
15	Alstom	Industrials A-D	100	10	10%
16	SSS Group	Industrials A-D	100	10	10%
17	Metcal Bar	Property	100	10	10%
18	Empire Stores	Drapery/Stores	100	10	10%
19	Cost Stationery	Industrials A-D	100	10	10%
20	AIM	Industrials A-D	100	10	10%
21	Dubilier	Electricals	100	10	10%
22	Hollis	Drapery/Stores	100	10	10%
23	Eys (Wimbledon)	Drapery/Stores	100	10	10%
24	Hunter	Industrials E-K	100	10	10%
25	Cadbury-Schep (sa)	Food	100	10	10%
26	Time Products	Drapery/Stores	100	10	10%
27	Conder Gp	Bank/Discount	100	10	10%
28	Morgan Grenfell	Bank/Discount	100	10	10%
29	Electromagnetics	Electricals	100	10	10%
30	Meat Trade Sup	Food	100	10	10%
31	Delcity (sa)	Food	100	10	10%
32	England (U)	Food	100	10	10%
33	Borland	Electricals	100	10	10%
34	Edbro	Industrials E-K	100	10	10%
35	Hanmies	Industrials E-K	100	10	10%
36	Cloze Bros	Bank/Discount	100	10	10%
37	Nat Asst Bk	Industrials L-R	100	10	10%
38	Metal Box (sa)	Industrials L-R	100	10	10%
39	Whitbread Int	Breweries	100	10	10%
40	TNT	Industrials S-Z	100	10	10%
41	Wentworth	Leisure	100	10	10%
42	Royal Elect (sa)	Electricals	100	10	10%
43	Itasca Johnson	Building/Roads	100	10	10%
44	Church	Drapery/Stores	100	10	10%

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in today's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

BRITISH FUNDS

High Low Close Price Change % P/E

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

UNDATED

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDEX-LINKED

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

ELECTRICALS

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Subdued end to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began June 6. Dealings ended yesterday. Contango day Monday. Settlement day June 27.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (sa) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES: PAGE 26).

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

BREWERIES

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

BUILDING, ROADS

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

FINANCE, LAND

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

FOODS

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

CHEMIS, TV

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

DRAPERY, STORES

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

HOTELS, CATERERS

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS A-D

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS E-K

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS L-R

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INDUSTRIALS S-Z

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

INSURANCE

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

LEISURE

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Mining

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

OILS, GAS

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

PROPERTY

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

SHIPPING

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

SHOES, LEATHER

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

TEXTILES

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

TOBACCO

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

OVERSEAS TRADERS

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

PROPERTY

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

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OVERSEAS TRADERS

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

PROPERTY

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

SHIPPING

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

SHOES, LEATHER

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

TEXTILES

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

TOBACCO

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

OVERSEAS TRADERS

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

High	Low	Close	Price	Change	%	P/E
100	100	100	100	100	100	100

PROPERTY

High

CHIEF OFFICE

FAMILY MONEY

هكذا من الأصل

Edited by Vivien Goldsmith

Rival lawyers in the fight

Investors who entrusted their money to Barlow Clowes International are now being wooed by two sets of solicitors hoping to spearhead the action to recover funds. Both Birmingham-based Gaisayers and Manchester-based Alexander Tatham say they already represent more than 300 claimants each.

Alexander Tatham has hired Manchester Town Hall, which has a capacity of 700, for a meeting of investors and their advisers next Thursday afternoon.

David Pine, of Alexander Tatham, says that by then he should have proposals to put forward on how to proceed and should have a clear idea of the remedies available to investors, such as suing intermediaries that placed the funds in Barlow Clowes.

"We will be asking investors to support a representative action," said Mr Pine.

Those who attend will be asked to contribute to a fighting fund. "How much we ask for will depend on how many people we will be representing," said Mr Pine. "If, say, there are 2,000 to 3,000, then the amount could be small, say, £150. If there are fewer,

the amount involved could be greater."

Gaisayers is taking a different tack. The firm has been taking counsel's opinion and will prepare a report early next week setting out recommendations to investors.

Those who want to see the report and join the investors' club will be asked for £100 a head for a fighting fund.

"If we need more funds later, we will ask again," says Michael Harvey, a senior partner.

Both sets of solicitors say they will exchange information for clients' benefit, but that masks some real rivalry between the two camps.

Gaisayers opened an office in Gibraltar in January with a view to servicing the offshore financial services industry. It was instrumental in getting a receiver appointed to work alongside the liquidator in Gibraltar to safeguard investors' remaining funds from any unnecessary damage from hurried liquidation.

Alexander Tatham has relevant experience, including working for investors in Farrington Stead, a Manchester-based gits operation run by two ex-Barlow Clowes

employees that closed down in 1981.

Investors' first action should have been to register their interest in Barlow Clowes with the special manager, Michael Jordan at Cork Gully, which has been appointed to wind up the affairs of Barlow Clowes.

Investors in Barlow Clowes Gilt Managers should contact Cork Gully on 01-606 7700 or write to Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2. Those who invested in Barlow Clowes International should register their claim with Ernst & Whinney on 01-928 2000 or write to Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU.

Gaisayers' address is 7 Bowchester Court, Wiltall Street, Birmingham B4 6DZ (021-200 2010). Alexander Tatham is at 30 St Ann Street, Manchester M2 3DB (061-236 4444). FIMBRA, the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association would also like to hear from investors who put money into Barlow Clowes via a broker. The address is Hertsmeere House, Marsh Wall, London E14 9RW (01-538 8860).

VG



Dr John Potter: "I wish the investors luck. I really do"

Veteran calls for an action group

The man who emerged as the investors' champion after Gibraltar-based Signal Life collapsed in 1982, said yesterday that investors need to set up their own action group rather than form up behind solicitors.

Dr John Potter said: "I would be a bit worried about solicitors taking on the job. It needs an investor to come forward and organize things and instruct a solicitor."

Dr Potter, who is a lecturer specializing in the subjects of litigation and behavior under stress, wrote his PhD thesis on stress while fighting the Signal Life battle.

When Signal Life failed leaving 600 investors deprived of more than £4 million, he obtained a list of the investors and invited them to put £5 for every £1,000 they had lost into a fighting fund.

This money was used to build up a database of investors and the legal advice they received. Thus, as every case came to court, the investors could draw on the experience of previous claimants.

Dr Potter estimates that this reduced the legal bills of those fighting their brokers for recompense from at least £800 to just £100. Dr Potter, who had put £15,000 into Signal Life bonds, pursued his adviser for five years. Eventually, just before the case was due in the High Court, the adviser agreed to pay him the £15,000 investment plus 10 per cent interest for the five years and £7,000 in costs.

Investors in SLAG - the Signal Life Investors Action Group - were organized into 15 geographical areas, each with a representative, who was kept in close touch with what Dr Potter and the solicitors, Graham White & Co, were doing. Investors could then contact the representatives for

up-to-date information on what was happening.

More than 30 per cent of Signal Life investors are believed to have recovered at least part of their investment from their advisers.

The worst settlements were just six months into the fight for the return of the money when some investors in the West Country accepted 50 per cent - £5,000 to £6,000 each - from their broker. In most cases investors got the return of their capital, interest and costs.

Dr Potter is bitter about the advisers who put their clients into Signal Life. He said: "Had they done their homework properly, they would have found that it was not kosher."

One of the major differences between the collapse of Signal Life and Barlow Clowes, says Dr Potter, is that the professional indemnity insurance held by the brokers when Signal Life went under proved to be worthless. The cover is now more watertight.

Incompetence would not be grounds for a broker claiming under his indemnity insurance, but negligence would be.

Dr Potter has not turned his back on the investment world. He now puts his money in futures trading.

"I do my own charts and analysis," he said. "My broker makes recommendations. We talk almost every day. It's a very volatile market. You have to live with the phone call saying you're losing a lot of money, and keep cool when you get one saying that you are a long way up."

"Overall, we are looking quite healthy. We are grossing 30 per cent this year. It's an educational flatter. I really enjoy it, but I know the risks I am taking."

Vivien Goldsmith

Spotlight falls on second Gib company

The Barlow Clowes collapse has turned the spotlight on a money management firm, Brookwood Asset Management, writes Tony Hetherington. Like Barlow Clowes, Brookwood is in both London and Gibraltar, and like Barlow Clowes, it offers an investment scheme based on carefully timed transactions in UK gilt-edged securities.

Brookwood was registered as a Gibraltar company on March 7. Its directors are Dr Peter Naylor and Shan Juliet Swinstead, former senior Barlow Clowes employees.

Miss Swinstead, who gave the Gibraltar authorities an address in Wimbledon, London, joined Barlow Clowes in 1984 as an administrator, working on personnel, training and computer software matters.

Dr Naylor joined Barlow Clowes in 1982, working on gits analysis. In 1985 he was appointed deputy chairman of Barlow Clowes Partners. In May 1986 he became a director of James Ferguson Holdings, the Barlow Clowes group parent company. He left Ferguson's board in November, shortly after Department of Trade inspectors began inquiries culminating in the closure of Barlow Clowes Gilt Managers in England and the collapse of Barlow Clowes International in Gibraltar.

Dr Naylor has been questioned by Ernst & Whinney and Cork Gully, joint liquidators of Barlow Clowes International. BCI records appear to show that Dr Naylor received a £1 million loan from funds invested with BCI. Dr Naylor has claimed the £1 million is variously gifts, a loan, or rewards for past services to Barlow Clowes.

Apart from these financial and personal links between Brookwood Asset Management to Barlow Clowes, authorities in Gibraltar are believed to be concerned at the nature of the investment schemes offered by the company, which has just moved into prestigious offices in Cornwall's Centre, an office block aiming to become the heart of the Rock's growing financial services industry.

Brookwood's literature offers a discretionary management service. This, says the company's brochure, involves "trading across a wide range of

British Government securities". It says: "The policy is to switch between gilts to increase the yield of the investment."

However, if signed, application forms for the scheme give the company the power to invest in currencies and fixed-interest securities as well as gilts. Official concern centres on the similarity between this and the marketing methods of Barlow Clowes, whose literature emphasized the safety provided by investment in gilts but whose application form actually included authority to invest in virtually anything.

A separate Brookwood scheme, the Capital and Income Preservation Plan, according to the marketing literature, "creates a high level of income by trading in British Government securities, and maintains the capital value when the client holds the investment until the end of the pre-selected period".

Brookwood itself tells clients it takes advice on gilt trading from a UK company, Woodhill Developments, which uses advanced computer systems "and the latest technology" to identify trading possibilities.

Woodhill has applied for membership of IMRO, the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation, a watchdog body set up under the Financial Services Act. Its application has not yet been accepted and it holds interim authorization to trade pending a firm decision.

Companies House records show Woodhill was originally an off-the-shelf company set up last July as Bushart Ltd. Its ownership is unknown, the only recorded shareholders being two company formation agents. Its sole director is Victoria Naylor, Dr Naylor's wife, who describes herself as a management consultant.

She is also a director of Southern Properties (Send) Ltd, Tudor Barn Stables, and Tudor Barn Farm. All three companies have attracted the attention of liquidators investigating the £130 million invested by BCI's 11,000 clients. Peter Clowes, head of the failed investment group, became a director of all three companies in 1985, though he later quit Southern Properties and Tudor Barn Farm.

C&G joins the life policies group

The Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society has teamed up with Policy Network, which aims to match those who surrender life policies with buyers. But why is a leading building society, which has set itself up as an independent financial adviser pledged to giving best advice, encouraging people to surrender life policies?

Ian Templeton, C&G's insurance manager, says: "We will not be encouraging people to surrender their policies - one of the benefits of the best advice rules is that there should be fewer surrenders than in the past."

He maintains that C&G will only respond to customers' requests for a surrender and can envisage very few circumstances in which it might be appropriate.

Somewhat might want to convert from an endowment mortgage to a pension mortgage and might not be able to keep up the payments on the endowment as well as the pension. But endowment policies set up before 1984 still qualify for tax relief and it will rarely be best advice for investors to surrender them.

The system, which is a rival to auctioneers Foster & Crane, who run regular sales of life policies, can usually find buyers for life policies prepared to pay more than the surrender value offered by the issuing insurance company.

It operates via a screen-based computer system. Sellers pay a commission of 12.5 per cent to Policy Network, and C&G will be getting a small commission from this payment. The seller, will, after all, get more than he would by going back to the issuing insurance company.

Some policies, however, are difficult to place. Buyers tend to want mature policies with not too many years to run, but most of the policies that people want to surrender perhaps because they have run into financial problems and can no longer finance a mortgage are usually only a few years into a 20-year or 25-year term.

People who take out life policies either as pure protection or as endowments to cover a mortgage do very badly if they surrender the policy before it has run its term. Terminal bonuses paid out at the end of a policy can make up 20 to 40 per cent of the final value of the policy.

The offshore appeal

Why should anyone want to invest offshore in those "sunny places for shady people", as Somerset Maugham once called them?

If you are an expatriate paying low or no income tax where you are working, investing offshore rather than subjecting yourself to an unnecessary offshore tax penalty makes tax sense, writes Michael Maconochie. UK-based investors get their dividends paid gross, so they can legitimately delay paying the tax on them.

But one of the big appeals of a haven is tax evasion - the illegal version of tax avoidance. For example, a London-based consultant does some freelance work for an American client, and rather than bringing the dollars home and paying income tax, he deposits them in an American bank in the Channel Islands, does not declare them, and uses them later to pay for a tax-free holiday in Florida.

Yet this law-breaker might have a child who uses the Channel Islands for quite legitimate purposes. If the child opens a piggy bank savings account at a high street bank onshore, composite rate tax is deducted at source, though the child is otherwise a non-taxpayer. Open the same account in Guernsey or the Isle of Man and the savings are tax-free.

As the Chancellor lowers income taxes, closes loopholes and attempts to level the fiscal playing field, the appeal of tax havens to most British investors is diminishing. The Europeanization of personal finance is also making it unlikely, for example, that any future government would raise taxes widely out of line with European rates.

The problem with Gibraltar is that it is moving from no regulation - and so no financial infrastructure - to full regulation, with Luxembourg-

style respectability.

Guernsey, Jersey and the Isle of Man are hastily enacting legislation so that they can set up their equivalents of our Financial Services Act, from which all recent British reforms have sprung. They hope to qualify for "designated territory" status with the European Community so that they can sell offshore funds and other financial products freely within the Community. Gibraltar is on the same path, though with further to go. Bermuda has expressed interest.

If you are considering investing offshore, choose a household name with a substantial office in a large city. And stick to home waters - the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man, at least for your first venture. If you feel drawn further afield, Luxembourg is the Community member with standards of investor protection closest to British levels.

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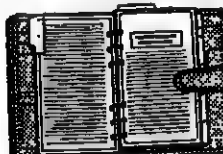
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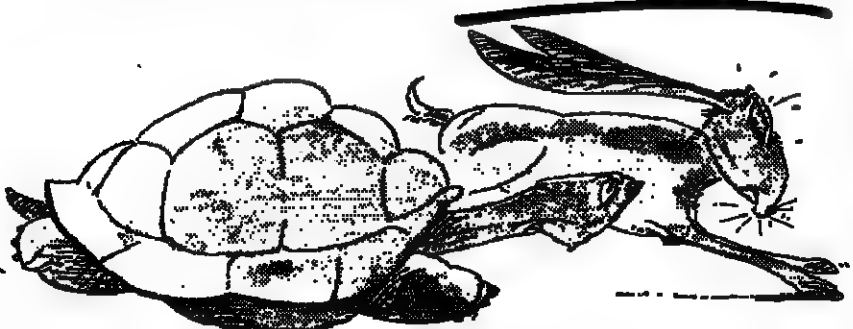
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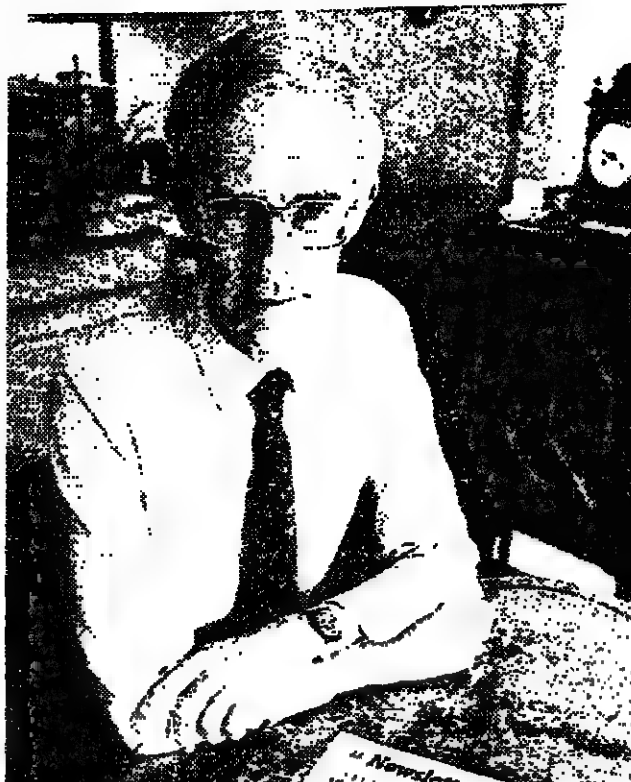
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FAMILY MONEY

Costs cut, extras added



Robin Kent: told he would have to buy cover he already had

If you want to book a discount holiday with the AA this year you will have to buy travel insurance as part of the package — even if you do not need it. That is what one Family Money reader, Robin Kent, discovered when he rang the AA with plans to make a firm booking.

Mr Kent, of Wimbledon, south-west London, was well insured before he started. Earlier in the year he had paid £118 for an American Express travel policy, which covered him for a full 12 months and provides a generous range of benefits in the process.

It insures him for up to a £1 million in medical expenses, will pay up to £2,000 for loss of baggage, and gives him all the other standard benefits, such as cancellation cover and compensation for loss of personal money while he is away.

The AA was not impressed. The staff told Mr Kent that if he wanted to go on the discount holiday he would have to pay for an insurance policy he does not need, and indeed cannot use.

A follow-up letter from Cherry Pritchard, the AA's sales and marketing co-ordinator, makes the point absolutely clear.

"Most holidaymakers do not have year-round travel insurance," she wrote to Mr Kent last July. "This offer is therefore very attractive to the vast majority of our clients."

Perhaps so, but Mr Kent could not even be free to use an AA insurance policy and remain inside the law. The courts have laid down that nobody can benefit from a theft, illness or anything else by claiming the insurance on it twice over — even if there are two sets of policies.

The same incentive route, and provide a matching generous

Mr Kent may have paid for his insurance, but travel cover often comes free. American Express provides it automatically if you book your holiday through the card. The figures under the various headings on the common-or-garden Green Card look perfectly adequate for Europe, while those on the Gold Card could cope with any emergency around the world.

The National Westminster's Gold Cards have taken over the same contract.

Why is the AA so insistent?

Profit margins on holidays are package for you and your family. The more gold cards there are, the more people may find themselves paying for cover they do not need.

There may be a case for allowing tour operators to check that their customers have at least some good travel cover before they start.

But that is very different from insisting that every customer, particularly when they come at a discount of 5 to 8 per cent, and tour companies depend heavily on the commission they earn from selling travel insurance to pay for the discounts in what is a very competitive market.

The AA is not the only sinner. Plenty of other companies, including Horizon and Lunn Poly, insist that travellers buying discount holidays should take out their insurance. Others bring in the clause when they offer low-deposit holidays, but Mr Kent maintains that the practice is wrong, whatever the circumstances.

"Tour operators should come clean on what they are charging and not insist that customers must buy unnecessary financial services to get a bargain," he says.

"Building societies used to try the same trick a while back, demanding that borrowers insure their houses through them and no one else. The Office of Fair Trading stopped that little wheeze, and Whitehall needs to be just as firm again."

David Tench, of the Consumers' Association, agrees, seeing the tour operators' attitude as unfair and extremely restrictive. Meanwhile, the Office of Fair Trading is now looking at the whole issue, though no decisions are imminent.

Free insurance is a clever marketing ploy, though it is not always as attractive as it looks.

Barclaycard, for instance, offers free cover against the risk of any injury you suffer when on holiday, but the offer represents the triumph of packaging over contents. It does not give you any of the insurance you really need on holiday, such as medical cover, loss of baggage or cancellation forced by illness or family circumstances.

To be fair, Barclaycard stresses that people should

take out separate holiday insurance, but its own little mouse of an offering will not help them even if they do. Insurance comes as a package, and you cannot get a price cut by opting out of the personal injury section and using the Barclaycard cover instead.

If holiday insurance comes as a giveaway, checking what it does and does not offer is crucial. Medical cover is the main point you should watch, remembering that most insurers now recommend cover of at least £250,000 if you are going to the United States. But baggage insurance, cover against the risk of being forced to cancel at the last minute, and some protection against the risk that your cash will be stolen can be just as crucial.

All the same, you should be

'This offer is attractive to the vast majority of our clients'

free to take the contract you choose. Probably only a tiny minority of people will opt out of the travel insurance so that the tour companies are not really going to lose by allowing people to make arrangements themselves.

Tour companies always imply that numbers may be significant and they may be right. But that is a pretty dubious justification. If a sizeable group of people are having to buy insurance that they do not need, to make holiday prices look cheaper than they are, then the practice should be stopped, and stopped quickly.

Tom Tickell

The wise traveller who goes prepared

Your claim on state medicine need not stop when you cross the Channel — just filling in a form can put you on a par with the natives when you travel.

Although travel agents will recommend holiday insurance — around £13.50 for eight days in Europe, £14.60 for 12 days and £16 for 17 days — an insurance company will expect claimants to have taken reasonable steps to reduce their liability for health bills.

The first move, if you are travelling in Europe, is to pick up HMSO leaflet SA40, obtainable from DHSS offices, larger post offices and some pharmacies. It replaces leaflets SA30 and SA35 and is updated on Prestel page 50063.

This is on the basis that you are travelling to Belgium, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Spain or West Germany. The UK passport is adequate in Denmark, excluding the Faroe Islands, Gibraltar and Portugal, including the Azores and Madeira. Non-UK nationals need to complete the form.

All European Community states offer emergency medical

care in some form on the same conditions as for their own nationals. Although not all services are complimentary, they are definitely cheaper than private care.

The key to such health treatment is to carry on the form E111, which is obtained after the earlier CMI form is completed, except where a UK passport is adequate.

The application can include your husband, wife or somebody living at the same address and having care of your children. You may also include children under 16 years or, if in full-time education, under 19 years. If travelling in a school party, your child should be entered as your dependant with your full name on the application form.

Form E111 does not cover free or reduced-cost medical treatment in another European Community state where the traveller is destined specifically for medical or maternity care, or if the intention is to secure treatment while abroad.

If you fit into these categories, apply for form E112,

allowing at least six weeks before you travel. It is conditional on gaining approval from your NHS consultant, not the family doctor, that the treatment cannot be provided within the normal time or that your case is exceptional.

If you intend to study in another European Community state, apply to the DHSS Overseas Branch, at Newcastle upon Tyne NE98 1YX, giving course dates and your address abroad.

Some non-European Community countries have arranged to give free or reduced-rate medical care to UK visitors. They include Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, the Channel Islands, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Finland, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, the Isle of Man, Malta, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Romania, Sweden, the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia.

Remember that the cost of bringing a person back to the UK in the event of illness is never covered under the special arrangements of the E111. Holiday insurance cover should extend to this. If you are staying in an area border-



ing countries that have no reciprocal agreement, in an emergency you may be sent to a hospital across the border.

It is important to remember that there is no free medical treatment to UK citizens in Canada and the United States, Cyprus, Andorra, Monaco, Switzerland and Turkey. Hospital care and prescriptions can be expensive in some of these states, which emphasizes the need for back-up health insurance.

If you are taken ill while temporarily in another Euro-

Conal Gregory

WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

FRANCE

You pay for hospital treatment, dental treatment, other medical care and prescribed medicines. Other information: 70 to 80 per cent of charges are refunded by the French Sickness Insurance Office. Full details are issued with the E111.

GREECE

You pay for hospital treatment, other medical treatment, and prescribed medicines. There are often long waits for treatment in the public health service. Other information: Although costs can be refunded by the Greek Social

Insurance Foundation, travel insurance cover for private treatment is strongly recommended. Full details are issued with the E111.

ITALY

Normally free: Hospital treatment, dental treatment and other medical treatment. You pay for prescribed medicines. Other information is given on the E111.

PORTUGAL, including the Azores and Madeira

Normally free: In-patient treatment in the general ward of an official hospital. You pay for medical treatment from a

doctor working in the state scheme health centres, prescribed medicines and dental treatment. Other information: Make it clear to the doctor or hospital authorities that you wish to be treated under European Community social security regulations.

SPAIN, including the Balearic and Canary Islands

Normally free: Hospital treatment and other medical treatment, provided a book of vouchers has been obtained and treatment is given by a state scheme doctor, health centre (ambulatorio) or hospital. You pay for prescribed medicines and dental treat-

ment. Other information: In most holiday resorts only a limited service is available under the Spanish scheme. To get free treatment under the state scheme you must follow the instructions issued with the E111. If you do not, and you have to pay for a consultation or hospital stay, the costs will rarely be refunded. Private medical insurance is recommended.

WEST GERMANY

Normally free: Dental treatment and medical treatment. You pay for prescribed medicines and hospital treatment. Other information is given on the E111.

IRISH REPUBLIC

Normally free: All medical and dental treatment and prescribed medicines. The local health board will arrange for a consultation with a public health service doctor or dentist. Hospital treatment is arranged by a doctor in a public ward of a health service hospital. Other information is obtainable from the health board of the area in which you are staying. Make it clear to the doctor, dentist or hospital authorities that you wish to be treated under the European Community's social security regulations. You may be asked to complete a simple statement.

YHA updates image, keeps down price

Family holidays with the Youth Hostels Association are booming. The reason is obvious — an overnight stay at its least expensive hostels costs £1.60 for children under 16 and £2.50 for adults, while its most expensive hostels, in London, cost £4 and £5.90, writes Peter Morris.

These days it is not all bare wooden floors and straw-filled mattresses. For £13.80 a family of four can stay in the splendid surroundings of Hartington Hall in the Peak District, a Jacobean manor house where Bonny Prince Charlie once slept.

This compares with £8.20 a night for a family of four enjoying the simpler pleasures, say, of a former water mill at Cynwyd in Wales.

The stone barn adjoining Hartington Hall has recently undergone conversion into one of the latest family annexes that the association is

opening up. The annexes offer self-contained family accommodation, with their own kitchen, living room and bathroom, as well as four- and six-bedded rooms. Unlike the hostels, which are normally closed between 10am and 5pm, families staying in the annexes can come and go at any time of day.

Special family membership of £11 a year is now available allowing children the freedom of using the hostels on their own from the age of 12. The usual adult annual membership fee is £6.50 and for children between five and 15 it is £1.50. Junior membership for those between 16 and 20 is £3.50. The only other charge for staying at one of the 260 hostels in England and Wales is 60p for the hire of a sheet sleeping bag if needed.

The association, a charity founded in 1930 to help all of limited means, especially

young people, to enjoy the countryside, also offers special rates for the unemployed. A current UB40 card entitles the holder to an overnight stay for as little as £1.60.

Maggy Kay, the marketing director brought in three years ago to update the image, says the association has had a fundamental shift in attitude.

"It's a matter of providing people with what they want rather than what we think they need," she said. "The atmosphere has become much more relaxed. People of any age can stay and you can come by car if you like. We're providing smaller dormitories, putting more carpets on the floor, installing showers."

In addition to its multi-activity holidays, the association is offering for the first time this year a range of adventure holidays for those aged 18 and under. A week in Llangollen caving or climbing,



Hartington Hall: Value for money is still a tradition here

for example, works out at £169 all in.

Offering beer, wine and cider with meals is another experimental break with tradition. But Miss Kay said: "There are definitely no plans to open bars in our hostels. We're not in competition with the local pubs."

Most hostels now also provide meals — breakfast at £1.70 and an evening meal of

two or three courses for £2.15. The catering standards have earned a number of hostels a place in the budget version of *The Good Food Guide*. The hotel at Dunstons, Abbot's, Gloucestershire, was the first to be listed.

But one old cost-cutting custom that has not been discarded in the new image is asking hostellers to help in clearing and cleaning up.

FAMILY MONEY

BEST AND WORST

Value of £50 invested on first of the month, February 1, 1988, to June 13, 1988 (i.e., total invested is £250)

Fund Manager	%
TOP FIVE	
NM Australian	311.7
SGM Australian	311.5
Grolund Australian	302.1
Barclays Unicorn Australia	300.6
ABNRS Australian	298.6
BOTTOM FIVE	
F&G Fixed Interest	218.7
Sentinel European Special	217.4
SGM European Special	216.9
Dunhill Italian Growth	214.5
Clerical Medical Pedigree	175.3
RBC Select Growth	175.3
Average of all 1,156 funds	248.9

* Offer to bid price basis

Source: Opal Statistics

Down Under up-top investments

Australian unit trusts take all the honours at the halfway stage of the Family Money unit trust competition.

They occupy nine of the top 10 positions and the people who have chosen an Australian trust should be sitting on a nice profit if they have put their money where their mouth is and invested in the trust they tipped.

At the end of last year Australian trusts were looking pretty miserable. They had been among the best performers in the months before the crash but took some of the worst falls after it, reflecting the particularly painful damage inflicted on the Australian market in October.

So a really cautious investor might well have shied away from anything with an Antipodean connection.

But some canny entrants

saw the advantage in picking something that had dropped so sharply that the only way to go was up. This is particularly true of this year's competition as it is based on the trusts that perform best when used as a vehicle for regular savings.

Regular savings schemes come into their own when markets are depressed because of the phenomenon known as pound cost averaging. It works on the principle that you get more units for your money while prices are low. The gain in your portfolio can be greater than the actual rise in the price of the units over a set period of time.

So although people investing in our top performer NM Australian through a monthly savings scheme have seen the value of their investment rise more than 200 per cent, the rise in the value of the units

over the same period is only about 50 per cent.

Mark Dampier, an investment manager and director of unit trust brokers Whitechurch Securities had this firmly in mind as he chose NM Australian as his favourite trust for 1988.

The Australian market was "totally bombed out" at the end of last year, he says, but large institutions there are still cash-rich, which means there is a lot of money waiting in the wings to boost the market when confidence returns.

"I felt that eventually, when the sheep got off the fence they would stampede back into the market," said Mr Dampier.

As the market is liable to peaks and troughs he also foresees the potential to benefit from pound cost averaging.

Keith Saywell, a factory accountant at RHM Foods,

does not have Mr Dampier's professional expertise, but he also picked NM Australian — as his second choice.

He said: "I didn't think the UK market was going to be very good in the current year. Australia seemed to have potential and the entrepreneurial influence seemed to be increasing. I thought there was a lot of room for recovery."

Australian trusts got a big boost in May after a package of economic reforms delivered by the Government boosted the share market. Opal Statistics' review of unit trust performance during May showed that the Australian sector was up an average of 11.6 per cent over the month, on an offer-to-offer basis.

But the market is volatile and over the longer term is not doing so well for unit trust investors. The average loss in

the year to the end of May was 34.4 per cent while the gain over three years was a slim 19.4 per cent.

Mr Dampier says that because of the volatility of the Australian market he would not advise novice investors to pick this area for a first-time unit trust savings scheme.

Although the Australian trusts dominate our top 20, there are some representatives from other sectors.

Twentieth place is occupied by a Far Eastern fund, Clerical Medical Dragon Growth. Nick Mason, a chartered surveyor from the West Midlands, named that as his first choice for the competition. He admits that he did not use sophisticated investment techniques to arrive at his decision. He preferred the time-honoured method of acting on a tip.

Maria Scott

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Vital vote on shares

Shareholders in the Crescent Japan Investment Trust will finally vote on Monday on whether to convert its assets into a unit trust or keep it as an investment trust.

The attempt has turned into a bitter battle between a group of big investors, who want to break up the trust to make a once-for-all short-term gain, and the directors and managers, who think shareholders would be better off in the long term by investing in an investment trust.

But Monday's meeting will be only an emotional peak to a debate that has been going on for a dozen years and has put investment trusts increasingly on the defensive. Investment trusts were the first large-scale form of collective investment in shares, but they gradually lost favour as Stock Exchange investment by individuals declined.

Unit trusts, targeted at new groups of smaller investors who did not want to deal directly on the Stock Exchange, gained ground in their stead and now manage funds half as big again as investment trusts.

The basic difference between the two is that investment trusts are companies with a fixed capital, which does not change when investors buy or sell their shares. Unit trusts, however, shrink or expand as investors buy or sell units.

The companies have some genuine advantages, such as the ability to borrow and to invest more flexibly — in unquoted shares, for instance. The unit trusts took over because they could be directly marketed to investors and were suitable for savings schemes. The companies could advertise their performance but not their own shares, unless making a rare capital issue.

The trouble with the investment companies was that, as they fell out of favour, sellers of their shares could find new

buyers only at a discount to the value of the shares held by the trust company. This share price discount to asset value has varied from an average 10-15 per cent in good times to a peak of 45 per cent at the trough of the great bear market of 1974.

To make matters worse, the institutions that bought the shares from individuals, eventually ending up with 70 per cent of the total, have also become sellers as more developed their own investment management.

The discount allows all but the smallest investor to get a bigger portfolio for his money by buying investment trust shares. But it has made the trust companies a sitting target for anyone who can offer the big institutional shareholders a way of realizing their investment without the discount.

The market has invented a variety of ways of filling this gap between supply and demand. Trust companies have

Foolish rush to leave Japanese market

merged. Pension funds have bid for them as a way of buying a ready-made portfolio on the cheap. Industrial companies have bid for them at asset value as an alternative to making a rights issue for cash. Increasingly, schemes have been devised to unitize the trusts by converting the shares indirectly into unit trusts.

The spate of attacks on trust companies investing in Japan stemmed from an anomaly at the time of the October crash. City institutions rushed to get out of the Japanese market — foolishly as it turned out.

This sent shares in investment companies specializing in Japan to a temporarily very high discount, giving the opportunity to buy at low prices and demand unitization, thus making a big short-term profit.

More generally, the rising

take-over threat has kept trust company discounts down, despite the crash, to an average of about 18 per cent. This provides a safety net for shareholders, though hardly an ideal one for long-term investors — let alone the managers.

The accelerating attack on the companies comes just at the moment when the return of private investors to the Stock Exchange has made individuals, with a few thousand pounds rather than a few hundred, more likely to buy investment trust shares than at any time in the past 40 years. Demand from private investors is rising.

The investment trust sector is still likely to shrink further, however, and some of the trusts will probably disappear. The managers themselves have realized the need to sort out their funds in order to appeal to a new generation of affluent private investors.

Ivory & Sims, for instance, has produced a scheme that will effectively split the Atlantic Assets Trust and its offshoots into a unit trust-type fund based in Luxembourg and an investment trust company specializing in venture capital.

There have also been calls for the investment companies to be more free to buy their own shares, so that any shrinking can take place more systematically, without the cycle of widening discounts followed by take-over bids.

As this simplifying process progresses, investment trusts are likely to emerge in two types.

There will be big funds, such as Globe, Alliance or British Assets, with the resources to attract investors by advertising and by special savings and re-investment schemes. These will have general portfolios aimed at above-average income, maximum capital growth or an international spread of investments.

At the other extreme will be

specialist funds designed to appeal to smaller institutions as well as wealthier private investors. Apart from any Japanese funds that survive, these are typified by Candover (a specialist in management buyouts), Throgmorton (smaller companies including occasional majority stakes) and a number of funds in particular sectors such as electronics or minerals.

Philip Chappell, adviser to the Association of Investment Trust Companies, sees the advantages of investment



Philip Chappell: "determined"

trusts giving them a better chance in the new era when Securities and Investment Board rules oblige stockbrokers and intermediaries to give their clients "best advice".

Mr Chappell says: "We are determined to see that investment trusts are talked about in the same breath as insurance products or unit trusts, whenever anyone is thinking about or advising on pooled investment."

But intermediaries receive commission on unit trusts and, discount aside, units are for most purposes just as good as shares in investment trust companies. The investment trusts are fighting back but have still to prove they are the medium of the future.

Graham Searjeant
Financial Editor

Portfolio
— PLUS NEW —
Accumulator

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's Portfolio price changes (today's are on page 25).

Sec	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Today
1	+7	+8	+3	+8	+8		
2	+3	+3	+7	+9	+5		
3	+8	+4	+5	+5	+4		
4	+5	+8	+3	+6	+4		
5	+7	+6	+4	+7	+4		
6	+4	+7	+4	+5	+3		
7	+2	+3	+8	+8	+8		
8	+8	+5	+8	+4	+4		
9	+1	+4	+8	+7	+5		
10	+6	+5	+4	+8	+5		
11	+7	+3	+6	+3	+3		
12	+5	+6	+4	+6	+4		
13	+3	+8	+2	+4	+4		
14	+8	+4	+6	+6	+3		
15	+3	+3	+8	+6	+8		
16	+8	+8	+3	+3	+3		
17	+4	+6	+3	+6	+6		
18	+8	+4	+7	+2	+5		
19	+5	+4	+6	+1	+3		
20	+4	+4	+7	+5	+5		
21	+3	+7	+4	+4	+4		
22	+5	+7	+3	+5	+5		
23	+2	+3	+7	+4	+5		
24	+2	+5	+4	+3	+5		
25	+4	+7	+4	+5	+4		
26	+4	+4	+3	+6	+6		
27	+6	+7	+3	+6	+6		
28	+1	+3	+7	+5	+5		
29	+7	+4	+7	+8	+4		
30	+3	+7	+7	+7	+5		
31	+3	+3	+7	+9	+4		
32	+8	+3	+8	+6	+5		
33	+8	+7	+2	+7	+3		
34	+6	+7	+5	+2	+6		
35	+2	+3	+8	+7	+5		
36	+8	+3	+8	+2	+3		
37	+2	+6	+3	+7	+4		
38	+4	+2	+7	+7	+8		
39	+4	+6	+5	+1	+4		
40	+8	+8	+3	+4	+3		
41	+7	+5	+4	+3	+3		
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Gatting book ban urged by TCCB

By Andrew Longmore

Alan Smith, the Test and County Cricket Board chief executive, has sent a letter to the 17 first-class counties and MCC urging them "most strongly" not to sell copies of Mike Gatting's controversial new book in their shops.

"I have discussed the question of county ground sales with several members of the executive committee and several county chairmen, and with our solicitors. The general view was that the Board will not be acting consistently if members sell the book at their grounds," the letter states.

"It ought to be appreciated that as the Board has withheld approval of part of the book, it is inconsistent for members of the Board to make a profit. If the Board were to profit from sales of the book, we could rightly be criticised."

Smith said yesterday that the Board was aware that the request would give further publicity to the book, but that could not be helped.

Several counties, including Surrey, Sussex and Kent, have

Deposed captain hits century

Mike Gatting, the deposed England captain, scored his first century since the opening game of the season in Middlesex's drawn match against Hampshire at Basingstoke yesterday.

Worcestershire's lead at the head of the Britannia Assurance championship was cut to five points as Kent recorded their fifth successive victory, beating Lancashire by five wickets at Tunbridge Wells. There were also wins for Warwickshire and Gloucestershire.

County cricket, page 38

already been sent copies of the book, *Leading From the Front*, an extract from which appeared in *The Sunday Times* last Sunday. These three counties have returned the books to the publishers, and there seems little doubt that all counties will do as they have been asked.

The Board has given up their attempt to stop publication but has set up a three-man investigating panel to report on the whole affair.

"We certainly wouldn't sell a book which was written against a contract with the Board, as the county are the board," Peter Edwards, secretary of Essex, said. "If the Board doesn't want us to sell the book, then we won't."

The three-man investigating panel, made up of members of the TCCB's disciplinary committee, will meet shortly to see whether the Board's regulations have been breached. "If they find that there have been no breaches, then we would withdraw our request to the counties, that is a matter for the panel," Smith said.

A salute to the Marshall arts

By Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent

LORD'S: West Indies, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 60 runs ahead of England

A day is a very long time in Test cricket. An hour after tea on Thursday, Dilley took his fifth wicket of the West Indies innings by dismissing Marshall. England acclaimed the moment; sweet talk of victory and revenge was in the air. Twenty-four hours later, the boot was being aggressively wielded by the other foot.

When Dilley, batting at No. 11, pushed hopefully forward to his first ball from Marshall and heard the death-rattle of the stumps, he stood for some moments before trudging off. It was not so much dismay or disbelief, rather an indication that England's opening-day hero was lost in admiration for the man who had so skillfully upstaged him.

England, at one stage 112 for two, had subsided to 165 all out. Marshall, whose very presence here had been at risk from injury until the eleventh hour, had taken five for 13 in a masterful 10-over spell and finished with six for 32. The second Cornhill Test was no longer a stage for national rejoicing.

Once the disappointment has been overcome, there should be no sense of surprise. All that was proved, on another riveting day's cricket, is that the West Indies have not lost their touch. With conditions just as helpful for swing bowling as they had been on Thursday, their attack functioned impressively. Walsh was scandalously unlucky, Patterson strikingly quick, but Marshall remained on a different plane to them all.

For reasons best known to himself, Richards employed his premier bowler for only four overs at start of play before banishing him to the slip cordon and apparently forgetting about him. The afternoon was already an hour old when Marshall peeled off his sweater again. Gooch,



Gooch bends the knee in obstinacy on the way to his 44 while Embury hears the death-rattle of the stumps (Photographs: Hugh Routledge)



immovable for more than three hours, succumbed to the second ball of his spell and things were never the same again.

Despite losing Moxon within the first hour, England had been building a strong position through their two best players. Gower, at once willing to take on the bowlers in his instinctive, quick-footed way, scored 46 of a partnership worth 54. Then, familiarly, he made one crass misjudgement, pulling at a ball leaving him outside off stump and looping a catch to deep square leg.

The bowler was Walsh, who thereby gained some overdue relief after a spell in which he graphically displayed of ever receiving his reward. Gooch, surviving for once on pure obstinacy rather than authority, was beaten time and again around off stump. In an hour after lunch he managed only three runs before steering Walsh for four and adding insult to injury by getting out at the other end.

He was half forward but playing down the wrong line to a ball which ducked in between bat and pad. Over the next two hours it was a ball we

were to see many times from Marshall. Delighting in the swing afforded by the heavy cloud cover, he danced in ballerina-style, high-stepping and jinking, varying his pace and his angle of delivery quite commandingly.

The fear that England's batting might be fragile without Gatting was well founded. Pringle fell in hooking a short ball from Walsh — another example of the indifferent ball taking the wicket when many better balls had failed. Then Lamb, urgently in need of a score to deflect the calls for his head, was confounded by

Marshall's speciality, the skidding in-swing.

Embury, the new captain, was generously welcomed by another full house but Marshall instantly emphasized that he is no respecter of position. His first ball was wicked, rattling into Embury's helmet as he took late and inept evasive action. He survived past tea before aiming a flat-footed, cross-bat swat against Patterson which would have brought guffaws on a village green.

Marshall mopped up the rest in merciless style, beating Lownton with in-swing, Jarvis with a subtle slower ball

and Dilley with one which was simply fast and straight. England had lost eight wickets for 53 runs and been dismissed for less than 200 for their last 12 Tests against the West Indies.

Greenidge and Haynes began again in dismal light and, three times in the space of seven overs, they accepted the umpires' offer to come off. Predictably, the crowd rebelled, cushions raining on to the outfield. They were wasting their effort — the light never improved sufficiently and, in all, 28 overs were lost.

SCOREBOARD FROM LORD'S

West Indies won toss

WEST INDIES

First Innings 209 (A.L. Logie 81; G.R. Dilley 5 for 55; G.C. Small 4 for 64)

Second Innings

C.G. Greenidge not out 12
D.L. Haynes not out 4
Total (no wkt, 62 overs) 18

R.B. Richardson, T.V.A. Richards, C.L. Hooper, A.L. Logie, J.P.L. Dujon, M.D. Marshall, C.E.L. Ambrose, G.A. Walsh and B.P. Patterson to bat.

BOWLING: Dilley 3.2-0-13-0; Small 3-0-3-0.

ENGLAND

First Innings

	4s	6s	Mins	Runs	Balls
G.A. Gooch b Marshall	4	0	5	19	106
M.D. Moxon c Richards b Marshall	0	0	20	8	48
M.D. Moxon c Richards b Marshall	2	0	4	20	48
D.L. Gower c Sub b Walsh	4	0	17	61	61
A.L. Lamb b Marshall	1	0	1	7	45
D.R. Pringle c Dujon b Walsh	1	0	1	20	17
J.P. R. Dujon b Marshall	1	0	1	56	32
G.C. Small not out	7	0	1	23	21
G.C. Small not out	5	0	1	20	5
P.W. Jarvis c Haynes b Marshall	0	0	1	12	13
G.R. Dilley b Marshall	0	0	1	7	1
Extras (lb 6, nb 2)	8	0			
Total (89 overs)				165	

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-58, 3-112, 4-129, 5-134, 6-140, 7-163, 8-157, 9-165.
BOWLING: Marshall 15-4-32-6; Patterson 13-3-52-1 (nb 1); Ambrose 12-1-39-1 (nb 2); Walsh 16-6-36-2 (nb 1).

Umpires: K.E. Palmer and D.R. Shepherd.

Queuing up to cash in on £1m

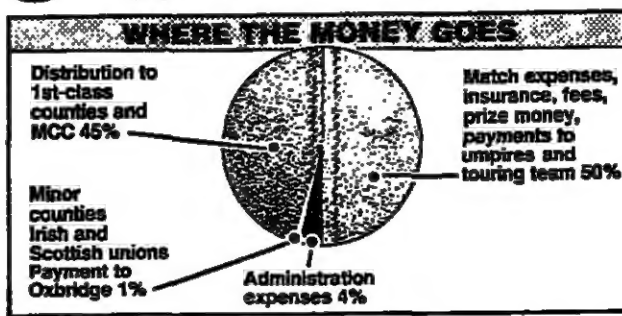
By Andrew Longmore

With £916,000 taken in advance sales and full houses guaranteed for the first three days, the second Cornhill Test match looks like becoming the first million-pound match to be played in England.

That would seem to bode well for the first-class counties, who will benefit from the income when the Test and County Cricket Board pool, made up of gate receipts, sponsorship money and fees from television and radio, is shared out at the end of the season.

But, as the chart above shows, the counties will have to wait at the end of a long queue to get their money.

The TCCB has budgeted for an income of £6 million from the Tests and one-day internationals this season. Out of that sum come the costs of staging the matches, which



have risen dramatically in the last two seasons.

John Stephenson, MCC secretary, estimates that the cost of the Lord's Test will be £321,000, nearly double the figure for last year's Cornhill Test against Pakistan, when gate receipts totalled £521,000.

"Since the new laws about ground safety and the trouble at Edgbaston last season, the cost of policing and stewarding has risen a lot," Colo-

nel Stephenson said. "For example, we now have to have a certain number of exits and each has to be manned by two people all the time."

MCC takes revenue from advertising and catering, estimated at £400,000. Other match expenses include accommodation for the England players, insurance against the loss of a day's play, umpires' fees and the fee paid to the touring team.

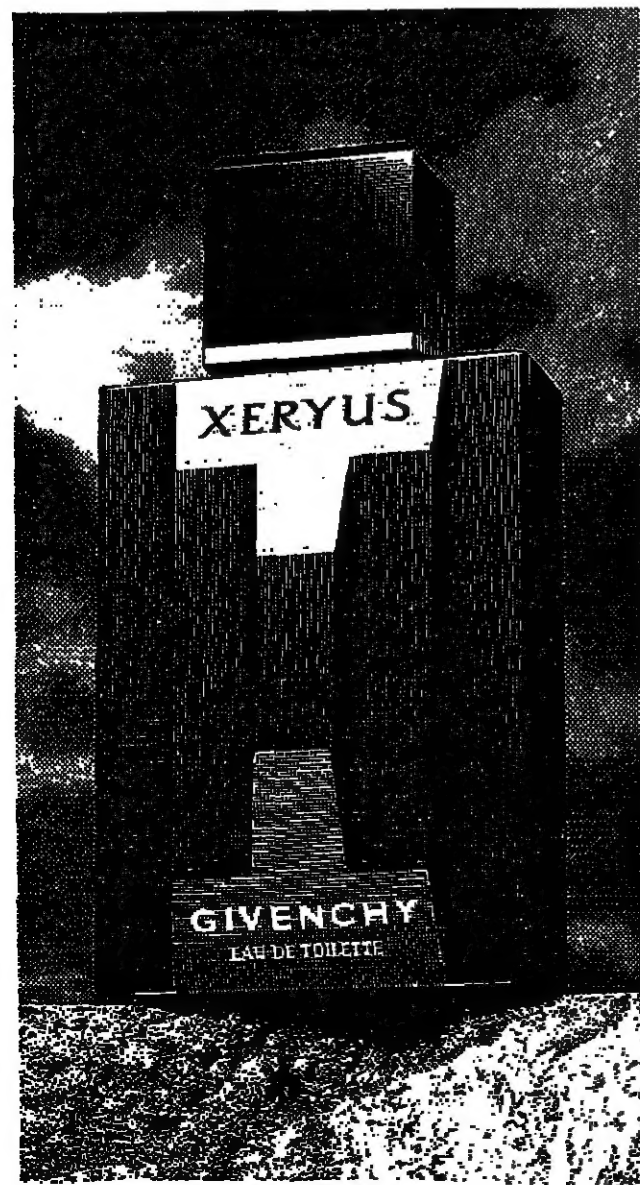
The board's administrative

expenses are spread across its five main accounts, one for the internationals and one each for the domestic competitions.

From the remaining pool the Irish and Scottish Cricket Unions receive a fixed sum of £3,500 each and Oxford and Cambridge £11,000 each. Only then do the counties and the minor counties get their share: 40ths to each of the 17 counties and MCC and 10ths to be shared by the minor counties, which means that, out of the estimated £1 million gate money for the present Test, the counties might see £25,000 each in their coffers.

"Provided the weather holds, this will be a very healthy Test match, but that doesn't necessarily mean a bonanza for the counties," Alan Smith, the TCCB chief executive, said.

THE ESSENCE OF FATHERS DAY



GIVENCHY

Lyle loses momentum as Mize moves forward

From Mitchell Platts, Golf Correspondent, Brookline, Massachusetts

Sandy Lyle attached a 71 to his first round of 68 as Larry Mize moved into the early halfway lead in the 88th United States Open golf tournament at The Country Club here yesterday.

It became a tale of two halves for Lyle as he followed an excellent outward 32 with an inward 39. He was entitled to feel as disappointed with his score as Mize, whom Lyle succeeded as Masters champion, was delighted with his of 67.

Mize, who has an aggregate of 136, six under par, has not won since he holed that unforgettable pitch in the playoff at Augusta. Moreover, he has only two top 10 finishes to his credit from 15 tournaments this season.

Lyle appeared invincible on the outward half. As early as the second hole he applied unnecessary pressure on himself by sending his first putt 12 feet past the hole, but made the return with consummate ease.

He looked every inch the conquering hero as he joyously raised his putter towards the sky on the third green to salute a 42-foot putt for a birdie. Tom Watson, Lyle's playing partner, smiled with a tinge of envy. In the first round, Watson, after appearing on the leader board, had finished with a 74 after taking four putts at the 13th and another three on the next green.

So when Lyle confidently nursed the ball home from five feet on the fourth green, after a precise approach with his sand-iron, Watson once again studied the putting technique of the master golfer. Time was when Watson himself would have made those

types of putts as if he had not a care in the world.

Watson did hole from 30 feet for a birdie at the 5th, where Lyle surprisingly missed from five feet. In fact, the Briton failed with another excellent chance from 15 feet at the next. Even so he produced another perfect approach at the long 9th, which left him a putt of less than three feet, which he accepted.

Lyle was out in 32 and, by that time, six under par for the championship. He was two ahead Mize, his nearest rival. The next four holes are considered the toughest

stretch at The Country Club — built in the late 19th century on the site of the Clyde Park Racecourse. In those days the holes were given individual names such as Paddock, Liverpool, and Elbow. As Augusta has Amen Corner, here it would be fair to call the run here from the 10th to the 13th Tattenham Corner. Here it is vital that a player remains evenly balanced, preserving his score, for the closing stretch.

Unfortunately, Lyle lost his stride. He courageously scrambled pars with single putts of three feet and 18 feet at the 10th and 11th holes respectively. But at the 12th he drove too far to the left, blocking himself out, and a

shot was lost there, along with another at the next where he pulled his tee-shot under a tree.

Lyle rallied with the assistance of a chip-and-putt par at the long 14th. The momentum, however, had disappeared from his game and he squandered chances at the 16th and 17th holes from 12 and eight feet respectively.

His problems were compounded by two visits to the rough at the 18th where he dropped another shot. By that time Mize had holed from 30 feet at the 15th for his second successive birdie to capture the initiative.

Fred Couples, meanwhile, put together a 67, at that time the lowest score in the championship, to put himself in contention at three under par overall. Bernhard Langer struggled to a 72 for a total of 147, and Severiano Ballesteros and Nick Faldo, who scored 69 and 72 respectively in the first round, were among the late starters.

Greg Norman was forced to withdraw after sustaining a wrist injury at the 9th hole, where he struck a rock when playing a recovery shot from the rough. Norman, who was four over par at the time, had his arm put in a sling immediately after walking off the course. He also announced that he would be unable to represent Australia in the World Cup at Royal Melbourne on December 8 to 11 because of a commitment in Japan.

REMARKS: Early second round leaders (US uniform numbers): 136: Lyle 68, 67; 138: A. Lyle 68, 70; 140: F. Couples 72, 67; 142: D. A. Weir 71, 71; 144: L. Wadsworth 72, 71; 146: J. Faldo 72, 71; 148: J. Faldo 72, 71; 150: J. Faldo 72, 71; 152: J. Faldo 72, 71; 154: J. Faldo 72, 71; 156: J. Faldo 72, 71; 158: J. Faldo 72, 71; 160: J. Faldo 72, 71; 162: J. Faldo 72, 71; 164: J. Faldo 72, 71; 166: J. Faldo 72, 71; 168: J. Faldo 72, 71; 170: J. Faldo 72, 71; 172: J. Faldo 72, 71; 174: J. Faldo 72, 71; 176: J. Faldo 72, 71; 178: J. Faldo 72, 71; 180: J. Faldo 72, 71; 182: J. Faldo 72, 71; 184: J. Faldo 72, 71; 186: J. Faldo 72, 71; 188: J. Faldo 72, 71; 190: J. Faldo 72, 71; 192: J. Faldo 72, 71; 194: J. Faldo 72, 71; 196: J. Faldo 72, 71; 198: J. Faldo 72, 71; 200: J. Faldo 72, 71.

Brand's course record puts him close to lead

Brussels (Reuters) — Gordon Brand Jr shot an eagle and five birdies for a course record 66 in the second round of the Belgian Open golf tournament near here yesterday.

Brand, who has finished inside the top 10 six times already this year, holed a 143-yard nine-iron shot for an eagle two at the 15th in an outstanding display that lifted him to a share of second place.

José-Maria Olazábal, of Spain, holed a 12-yard eagle putt at the 17th on his way to a 69 and the halfway lead with a six-under-par aggregate of 136. He was one stroke clear of a group of six players, including Brand, and another Briton, Carl Mason.

Olazábal, runner up to Seve Ballesteros in the Majorca Open in the first week of the

season, fourth in the British Open and eighth in the Spanish Open and eighth in the Cannes, snatched the lead after missing two putts inside two feet.

Mason, at 34, seeking his first tour title, holed a stream of long putts to pick up five birdies and an eagle. He has failed to qualify on three of his last four outings but explained: "I saw a psychologist before flying to Brussels and he has unscrambled my mind."

LEADING SECOND ROUND SCORES (68 and Ireland unless stated): 136: J.M. Olazábal (Sp), 67, 69; 137: C. Mason, 69, 67; 138: G. Brand Jr, 67, 69; 139: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 140: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 141: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 142: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 143: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 144: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 145: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 146: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 147: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 148: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 149: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 150: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 151: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 152: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 153: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 154: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 155: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 156: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 157: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 158: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 159: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 160: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 161: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 162: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 163: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 164: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 165: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 166: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 167: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 168: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 169: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 170: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 171: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 172: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 173: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 174: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 175: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 176: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 177: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 178: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 179: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 180: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 181: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 182: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 183: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 184: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 185: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 186: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 187: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 188: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 189: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 190: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 191: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 192: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 193: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 194: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 195: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 196: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 197: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 198: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 199: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69; 200: J. Faldo (Wal), 69, 69.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Complaint by Aouita

Rabat (Reuters) — Said Aouita, of Morocco, the world and Olympic 5,000 metres champion, said yesterday he would not compete again in his home country after state television did not broadcast Saturday's international meeting when he tried to better his two-mile record.

Aouita said: "I will not take part in any future competitions in Morocco."

Record lifts

Peking (Reuters) — Chinese weightlifters set four world records in the Asian championship in Xilong. He Zhuoqiang snatched 119.5kg and jerked 150kg in the flyweights for a total of 269.5 and He Yingqiang won the bantamweight snatch with 114.

Partner quits

Barry McGuigan, who meets Tomas da Cruz, of Brazil, at Kenilworth Road, Luton, next Saturday, battered Benji Marquez, his sparring partner so badly that the American has headed home early.

END COLUMN

Football watched without fear

By Louise Taylor

Wembley is expected to draw a near capacity crowd on July 31 when the Miami Dolphins and the San Francisco 49ers will contest American Bowl '88. However, while events on the turf may verge on the violent, it is unlikely that outbreaks of hooliganism, such as those habitually associated with the England football team's appearances, will be repeated.

For a predominantly British audience, the fixture, in its third year, will probably prove an entertaining evening, experiencing a sport still relatively new to this country.

A trip to American football rarely represents more than an enjoyable diversion and accordingly the amount of spectator violence in and around stadiums is infinitesimal.

Joe Montana is the quarterback for the 49ers. During a distinguished career he has seen "only a few minor crowd scuffles".

A visit to London this week alerted him to the problems at the European championship in West Germany, and he said: "From talking to people, I realize that soccer is something you'd never take your family to. Back home football is very different; you're always seeing families and friends having tailgate parties out of the backs of their cars for two or three hours before and after games, but there's no trouble."

With an overwhelming majority of American fans travelling to matches by car, the menace of "inter-city" thuggery on trains is negated.

The sheer distance involved in journeying from Florida to Seattle usually restricts the average number of away supporters included in typical crowds to 100,000 strong enough to under a thousand.

Once inside the stadium, the fact that there is sitting room only, combined with the presence of police carrying guns, provides further deterrence to hooliganism.

In practice there is never any call for the guns to be drawn, but their existence is symptomatic of a society far more violent than our own.

Sport is somehow sacred, though. As the Miami Dolphins running back, Trey Stradford, said: "It's an outlet; it's about entertainment. You go to football to escape from the hectic and sometimes violent world outside. You go to enjoy yourself, not to create trouble. We have rowdy people in our crowds but at football they take a laid-back rather than a violent attitude. Violence at sport is just not accepted; we don't tolerate it."

This paradox is highlighted by the fact that much-haunted New York boasts two teams, the Jets and the Giants, who share a stadium and whose supporters co-exist in peaceful harmony — an arrangement that could never be mirrored by Arsenal and Tottenham.

The macho nature of American football provides a further anomaly. "Our game really is a contact sport, it's pretty violent," Montana said. "Maybe the people who come along get their fix of violence from watching us rather than kicking lumps out of each other."

INSIDE

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A salute to the Marshall arts

Lyle loses momentum as Mize moves forward

Brand's course record puts him close to lead